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Mandate Talks Session Held in Vienna
LD2609092688 Moscow TASS in English 0924 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Vienna September 26 TASS—A regular meeting was held here today within the framework of consultations of representatives of the Warsaw Treaty member states and NATO countries on working out the mandate of future talks on the reduction of the armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

Karpov Heads Talks With U.S. Delegation
LD2609233188 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2255 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Washington, 27 Sep (TASS)—In conformity with an accord reached at the Moscow summit and confirmed in September by the U.S. secretary of state and the USSR foreign minister, Soviet-U.S. consultations on the problem of the spread of missile technology took place in Washington on 26 September. The Soviet delegation was headed by V.P. Karpov, head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Administration of the USSR Foreign Ministry, and the U.S. delegation was headed by A. Holmes, assistant secretary of state for politico-military affairs. Both delegations acknowledged the seriousness of this problem and decided to continue their consultations. The date and venue of the next meeting will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

Soviet-U.S. Naval Balance Examined
PM2609080188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Sep 88 First Edition p 3

[Article by Captain 1st Rank Ye. Nikitin: "They Prefer Counting Galleys. Or on the Naval Element in the Balance of Forces"]

[Text] A U.S. Tomahawk missile was launched from a ship at a surface target 1,000 km away. This attack, JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY noted, was coordinated with the actions of the "Carl Vinson" nuclear-powered aircraft carrier. The test took place this spring. In August a Tomahawk missile with a dummy warhead launched from a warship struck a target at a distance of approximately 1,600 km.

These U.S. press announcements lack the enthusiastic, hyped expressions so characteristic of these occasions, such as "launched for the first time...," "new alliance of cruise missiles and aircraft carriers..." and so on. In the opinion of foreign specialists, however, from the military viewpoint a great many of these launches were indeed happening "for the first time." At present official U.S. Navy spokesmen prefer not to expound too much on this score. It is not fashionable now in the West to say a great deal about sea-launched cruise missiles and aircraft carriers or their accumulation. USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze pointed out in his speech at the third UN General Assembly special session on disarmament that "some states which are prepared to include even soldiers' galleys into their opponents' military balance become irritable when asked, for instance, just to talk about aircraft carriers."

At the same time it is simply essential to discuss naval activity and fleet arsenals. The whole world was once again reminded of this by the tragic fate of the Iranian civil airliner downed recently in the Persian Gulf by missiles from the U.S. state-of-the-art cruiser "Vincennes." The times persistently necessitate that the new political thinking be translated into the concrete language of interstate relations, as was displayed in the signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, and be supplemented by other important victories for reason and common sense, including on the question of curbing the naval arms race and limiting navies' activity.

At present none of the constructive Soviet proposals on this score put forward by M.S. Gorbachev in Vladivostok, Murmansk, Belgrade, and recently in Krasnoyarsk has won support from the United States. Instead people there are continuing to make unfounded accusations of the Soviet Union of building up its naval arms.

But objective examination of the question and comparison of factual data on navies' composition and activity shows that the U.S. stance is subject, to put it mildly, to fact-juggling.

Take, for instance, the naval component of the so-called U.S. strategic triad—SSBN's fitted with SLBM's. U.S. strategic forces have approximately 40 of them. The situation at the beginning of this year was that a total of 432 "Poseidon C-3" SLBM launchers and 240 "Trident-1" SLBM launchers were deployed on SSBN's. These missiles can deliver approximately 6,000 nuclear munitions with a yield ranging from 50 to 150 kilotons to targets thousands of nautical miles away.

When comparing combat potentials, another indicator is also important—the number of MIRVed missiles. There are 640 of these missiles on U.S. SSBN's. Each of them is fitted with a vehicle containing 8-14 warheads capable of being guided to individual targets. In general, as foreign specialists point out, approximately half of all U.S. strategic munitions are deployed on SSBN's permanently patroling the world's oceans.

There are 942 SLBM launchers on Soviet missile submarines, that is, 270 more than the Americans have. But of this number, only 388 are MIRVed missiles (as opposed to 640 American). In other words, we have fewer combat charges than the Americans on board missile submarines. Yet it is the charges rather than the carriers themselves that possess strike capability.

I must especially stress that in this case we are not considering the potential of Britain's and France's sea-launched nuclear forces. These countries in the NATO

bloc are linked by common military commitments. People in Paris and London make no secret of the fact that on board both British and French SSBN's, data about targets located in Warsaw Pact countries is programmed into the memory of the missile firing control system computer before they enter combat patrol.

Now let's take the "conventional" component of navies and examine it within the Warsaw Pact and NATO armed forces. NATO has considerable superiority over the Warsaw Pact in terms of this component: It has almost 3 times as many large surface ships (cruisers, destroyers, and missile frigates), almost 2 and ½ times as many naval aircraft; and twice as much overall naval tonnage.

This question can also be examined in terms of individual regions. For instance, we have as many nuclear submarines as the United States in the Pacific. But there they have eight times as many multipurpose nuclear submarines equipped with long-range cruise missiles. We lack aircraft carriers and battleships; the United States has 3 times as many combat aircraft overall and more than 10 times as many deck aircraft.

Aren't people in Washington guided by a desire, among other things, to retain these correlations when they refute or attempt to depict as "immaterial" the recent proposals put forward in the Soviet leader's 16 September speech in Krasnoyarsk? Let us recall some of them:

"The USSR invites the main naval powers of the Asia-Pacific region to hold consultations on the non-buildup of naval forces here";

"The USSR proposes the discussion on a multilateral basis of the question of reducing military confrontation in the regions where the coasts of the USSR, the PRC, Japan, the DPRK, and South Korea converge with the aim of freezing and commensurately reducing the levels of naval and air forces and limiting their activity";

"If the United States eliminates its military bases in the Philippines, the USSR will be prepared, by agreement with the SRV Government, to abandon its fleet material and technical supply station at Cam Ranh Bay";

"The USSR proposes that an international conference on the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace be held no later than 1990. As is well known, the preparatory work for this has been largely completed at the United Nations."

All these and other Soviet proposals have met with a broad positive response in many countries of the Asia-Pacific region. "The USSR's initiatives," India's NATIONAL HERALD stressed, "should strengthen the atmosphere of disarmament."

The essence of Washington's negative reaction becomes increasingly understandable if one recalls a White House report of 28 January 1987 which said outright: "Maritime supremacy enables us to exploit the Soviet Union's geographical vulnerability and create a global threat to Soviet interests."

Official assurances of the "purely defensive functions" and "peaceful aims of U.S. naval forces" do not tally with such militarist frankness. Their genuine aim is still to create a global threat. Moreover, they are trying to broaden and step up the threat to the Soviet Union. This tendency became especially marked when the possibilities of achieving an accord on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles appeared. This can also be observed now, following the signing and ratification of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

In an attempt to counteract—if not stop—the emerging prospects of slackening the arms race, U.S. strategists are endeavoring to direct the race, so to speak, along the maritime channel. Thus, by the mid-1990's it is proposed to raise the number of cruise missiles on various classes of U.S. ships to approximately 4,000 and, moreover, more than 750 of them will be nuclear-tipped. Aircraft carriers are continuing to be built up, and only nuclear carriers are being built. By 1993 it is planned to have 7 nuclear and 9 conventional aircraft carriers in the operational Navy (there are now 5 and 10 respectively). This will make it possible, people in the Pentagon believe, to deploy on the "front lines," that is near USSR borders, even more powerful U.S. Navy groupings. "Present U.S. Navy practice and strategy is seen both in Washington and abroad as a threat to international peace," THE WASHINGTON POST is forced to admit.

Attempts to violate the prevailing balance of forces and nuclear missile parity cannot ensure security for the side striving for military superiority. The most reliable foundation for true security in our interconnected and interdependent world is that laid at the negotiating table rather than at test ranges or in the ocean depths. We advocate this path and talks at which we are prepared to discuss any questions, including "imbalances," not confusing, of course, combat systems with soldiers' kitchens and sailors' galleys.

Further on 43d UN General Assembly Session

Shevardnadze Meets Western Counterparts

LD2709100688 Moscow TASS in English 0953 GMT 27 Sep 88

[Text] New York September 27 TASS—Each September, in the first days of the work of the U.N. General Assembly's regular session the head of the Soviet delegation holds a series of meetings with foreign politicians who arrived in New York.

On September 26, Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, conferred with Geoffrey Howe, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, Roland Dumas, French foreign minister, and Giulio Andreotti, foreign minister of Italy.

An exchange of views was held on international issues, which revealed both common appraisals and differences in standponts. The exchange itself passed in the spirit of a constructive quest for drawing the parties' positions closer, which did not exclude all the same elements of polemics.

Under discussion, in part, was the question of banning chemical weapons. Here the Soviet Union and Britain take to a certain extent concerted efforts. Specifically, the two countries' experts visited each other's military chemical facilities. Soviet-British cooperation in this matter could spur the elaboration of an international convention on banning chemical weapons. France, however, holds another point of view, considering it necessary to have the so-called security reserve on this type of weapons, which constructs the conclusion of the convention. According to the French side's reasoning, Britain and any other country can also claim such a "reserve" and then the signing of the convention will not go through. Hope was expressed that France will take a new look at this problem, being mindful of the situation that has formed at the Geneva negotiations now.

The interlocutors discussed other questions of disarmament, regional conflicts and humanitarian problems. The Soviet side clarified once again the concept of comprehensive international security and voiced the hope that it would be supported by Western countries.

The Soviet side declared for the earliest completion of the Vienna follow-up meeting of the participating states in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and for the beginning of the talks on reducing conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. The NATO countries are slow in getting along here and respective bewilderment was expressed to the interlocutors.

Their attention was also drawn to Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal for holding a European summit to discuss how to pass from words to deeds in conventional arms reduction. The Soviet side also showed interest in the partners' view of the idea of creating a center for reducing the danger of war and averting a surprise attack in Europe. The partners answered that the issue is under study with a view to determining a position.

The Soviet side is ready to support the proposal for holding a conference on humanitarian issues in Paris in 1989 and in Copenhagen—in 1990, to support the idea of convening an information forum in London but on condition of reciprocity and agreement to hold a conference within the framework of the concept of the human dimension of the Helsinki process in Moscow in 1991.

The interlocutors highly appraised the peacemaking activities of the United Nations Organisation and its secretary general in settling regional conflicts.

The Soviet minister informed the Western partners about the outcome of the regular round of Soviet-American talks held in Washington several days ago and drew attention to Gorbachev's proposal for setting up on the basis of the Krasnoyarsk radar station an international center for the use of space for peaceful purposes. The Soviet side is ready to invite scientists of Western countries to study on the spot the opportunities which are being opened.

Following decades of political alienation, relations between the USSR and Britain have been developing dynamically in recent years. British-Soviet summit meetings are especially instrumental to this, both sides stressed. The untapped reserves remain, however. Ways should be found toward broader interaction on problems which are of global human importance.

Soviet-French relations, in their turn, need to be invigorated. Opportunities for this are opened now and the Soviet side welcomes the French leadership's statements in favour of boosting our ties.

Soviet-Italian relations are developing in a good rhythm, which was stated in a talk with Giulio Andreotti. Italy takes third place among Western countries in trade with the USSR, leaving behind only West Germany and Finland. Eight joint business enterprises were formed and another 50 projects are under consideration. Scientific cooperation gains momentum, including in the exploration and use of space for peaceful purposes. An exhibition, Italy-2000, will open in Moscow soon.

In the talks with the ministers we noted the importance of compliance with the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan, to which the interlocutors could contribute, specifically, by facilitating the process of the inter-Afghan dialogue.

The Afghan theme was the principal topic at the talk held on the same day with Diego Cordovez, foreign minister of Ecuador, since he continues to engage in the Afghan settlement as private person. The Soviet side expressed

serious concern over the use of Pakistani territory for hostile actions against the Republic of Afghanistan, which upsets the balance of the parties' obligations under the Geneva agreements and threatens to thwart these agreements. A settlement inside Afghanistan is possible only on the basis of reaching concord among the Afghans and without outside interference.

Shevardnadze, Socialist Delegates Talk

LD2609033288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0145 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] New York, 26 Sep (TASS)—In New York on Sunday there was a meeting of the heads of delegations, here for the 43d UN General Assembly session, of the Bulgarian People's Republic, the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the German Democratic Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

E.A. Shevardnadze, the head of the Soviet delegation, informed his colleagues of the actions of the Soviet Union in affirming in international politics the concept of the new thinking and conduct of states.

In a businesslike, comradely atmosphere, the participants in the meeting exchanged opinions on questions on the agenda of the General Assembly session. Note was made of the important significance of the broad democratic dialogue which is under way in the United Nations, in particular that aimed at the search for practical approaches, acceptable to all, toward the formation of a system of all-embracing security. A component element of this process is the safeguarding of the effectiveness of the United Nations as a genuine center of intelligent settlement of international relations.

There emerged a unity of assessments concerning the fact that of late the international situation had substantially improved, and that through the joint efforts of states, with the participation of the United Nations, major results had been achieved in the field of strengthening security, and especially of disarmament, the solution of regional problems, develpoment of dialogue on cooperation in the sphere of economics, ecology, in the exchange of information, and expansion of contacts among people.

The participants in the meeting noted the fruitful development of the Soviet-U.S. political dialogue and positively assessed the outcome of the USSR foreign minister's talks in Washington. They stressed the importance for all mankind of the Soviet-U.S. accords on elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range nuclear missiles, and strengthening of confidence-building measures in the military field. They spoke of the need to build up efforts, multilateral included, for the purpose of reaching agreement on radical reductions of nuclear arms, preventing the arms race from being taken into outer space, reducing conventional weapons and armed forces, and lowering military confrontation.

The participants in the meeting expressed serious concern at the proliferation of chemical weapons and incidents of their use and advocated speeding up the completion of preparation of a convention on this matter, including the strictest measures of verification.

Much attention was paid to the questions of the Vienna meeting of representatives of states taking part in the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. It was noted with satisfaction that there are real opportunities for a swift end to work on the mandate of talks on reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons and the remaining unsettled humanitarian and other questions.

At the meeting the conviction was expressed of the need for consistent progress in disentangling situations of conflict and crisis. Special stress was laid in this context on the importance of strict observance by all sides of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan. The importance was noted of a just political settlement of the existing problems in Southeast Asia, southern Africa, and Central America; the establishment of dialogue between North and South Korea; and the the earliest implementation of the resolution of the UN Security Council on halting the Iran-Iraq conflict.

In the opinion of the participants in the meeting, the 43d session of the UN General Assembly must make a tangible contribution to strengthening the processes of renewal in world politics and promote a heightening of the role and authority of the UN in shaping all-embracing security, equal for all on the basis of strict observance of its charter.

In honor of the participants in the meeting E.A. Shevardnadze gave a luncheon, which was also attended by heads of delegations foreign ministers of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Shevardnadze Japan Visit

OW2709054088 Tokyo KYODO in English 0409 GMT 27 Sep 88

[Text] New York, Sept. 26 KYODO—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will meet Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama here Tuesday to talk about his planned visit to Japan this year-end, a senior Soviet official told Kuriyama on Monday.

Kuriyama, here for the United Nations General Assembly session, met his Soviet counterpart Vladimir Petrovskiy at the Soviet representative office at the U.N.

In the one-hour meeting, Kuriyama told Petrovskiy that Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno had canceled his attendance at the U.N. General Assembly due to Emperor Hirohito's serious condition, making it impossible for him to meet Shevardnadze here, Japanese Foreign Ministry sources said.

Kuriyama verbally delivered Uno's message seeking agreement on the schedule of Shevardnadze's visit to Japan, the sources said.

Petrovsky said Shevardnadze will meet Kuriyama after delivering a speech at the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday to tell him of the timing of the visit to Japan.

Since Shevardnadze will deliver the speech from Tuesday noon, he is expected to meet Kuriyama in the afternoon.

Uno's message also proposed the holding of Japan-Soviet talks on economy and trade in Moscow on October 25-27, on science and technology cooperation in Tokyo on December 5-7 and on cultural exchanges in Tokyo in November.

Petrovskiy answered that the Soviet Union agrees to the proposed schedules in principle.

He also indicated his country will not oppose Japan's plan to take up the so-called northern territory issue concerning the Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido, northern Japan, when Shevardnadze visits Japan, the sources said.

Petrovskiy Memo to UN Head

LD2609192888 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1733 GMT 26 sep 88

[Text] New York, 26 Sep (TASS)—"The question being discussed in the United Nations of 'a comprehensive system of international peace and security' has [word indistinct] the development of broad international dialogue, primarily in the United Nations, on ways and means of safeguarding comprehensive security in the military, political, economic, ecological, humanitarian—including human rights—and other fields on the basis of strict observance of the UN Charter and of an increase in the role and effectiveness of the United Nations." This is stated in a memo "On Comprehensive Security Through an Increase in the Role of the United Nations," which has been sent by Vladimir Petrovskiy, deputy head of the USSR delegation to the 43d session of the UN General Assembly, to J. Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general.

The memo sets forth the Soviet approach to certain aspects of ensuring comprehensive security—enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations and of its main bodies, the broader use of UN operations to maintain peace, and the assertion of the primacy of international law in relations between states.

In the Soviet Union's opinion, the search by all states for ways to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations should be oriented toward total and unselective implementation of provisions of the UN Charter, the active use of its mechanisms and procedures, and the development of the United Nation's capability to undertake effective measures of a preventive nature to avert international crises and conflicts. The USSR proposes that a reduction in the level of confrontation within the United Nations be sought, and that an atmosphere of productive cooperation of the states be made the norm in that organization.

Enhancement of the effectiveness of the UN Security Council could be fostered by measures such as:

—the establishment of closer cooperation of permanent members of the Council. Permament members might study the possibility of working out procedures and mutual obligations in the spirit of restraint and respect for the freedom of choice of peoples such as would exclude the involvement of major powers in a confrontation on the grounds of regional conflicts;

—stepping up the mechanisms of official and unofficial consultations of members of the Security Council, with the UN secretary general, and also directly interested parties where necessary, participating;

—the holding of periodic sessions by the Security Council at the level of foreign ministers during the work of, or on the eve of sessions of the General Assembly. The Soviet Union is striving for the strengthening and further development of the positive experience and practice of conducting UN peace-keeping operations, which could be more widely used for the practical implementation of the Security Council's decisions, and also to avert armed conflicts that are brewing. In individual cases, should the need arise and UN member states show an interest, the Soviet Union would be prepared to examine the question of detailing a military contingent for UN peace-keeping operations. The Soviet Union could take part in the material and technical supplying of UN forces, in providing means of transport for subdivisions of the UN forces, military equipment, communications means, medical personnel, medicaments, etc to be delivered to the region of their deployment.

Perez de Cuellar on Objectives

PM2709093788 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS correspondents M. Kochetkov and V. Matyash account of interview with UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar in New York: "The Most Important Objective"; date of interview not given]

[Text] New York, 22 Sep—**Disarmament has always been one of the most important objectives of the United Nations. The United Nations is a unique forum where world leaders can express the desire of their countries'**

peoples to curb the arms race, ban chemical and biological weapons, and ultimately achieve nuclear disarmament, UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar declared in an interview with TASS correspondents.

The signing of the historic Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles by the United States and the Soviet Union was a major achievement which gave a boost to all talks on arms control. I hope that this agreement will also create a favorable atmosphere for success at the talks on reduction of strategic nuclear arms. Even though the recent special session of the UN General Assembly failed to adopt a final document, it nevertheless succeeded in smoothing differences on a series of important problems which are being intensively discussed in various bodies dealing with disarmament. It was recognized that universal, regional, and bilateral talks could supplement and intensify each other, while the multilateral process could assist the bilateral process in the interest of all countries, large and small alike. This process must be energetically pursued.

The United Nations is persistently acting to provide assistance in the settlement of protracted regional conflicts. I hope that our recent success in achieving a settlement in Afghanistan and a cease-fire in the war between Iran and Iraq, which led to the easing of tension in these regions, can in turn assist in disarmament and arms reductions.

The UN General Assembly's 42d session issued an insistent appeal to all states to concentrate their efforts on ensuring all-embracing security by political means on an equal basis and in all spheres of international relations in conformity with the UN Charter and within the UN framework. The General Assembly confirmed that the collective security mechanism enshrined in the charter is a fundamental and irreplaceable instrument for the maintenance of international peace and security. In addition, the General Assembly expressed its confidence "that there must be a continuation and development of effective dialogue in the United Nations and other forums along all avenues and at all levels in order to pool different concepts and examine acceptable ways and means to ensure all-embracing security in conformity with the charter, taking into account the realities of the nuclear and space age."

The improvement of the international political climate and the easing of tension in the wake of the meetings between U.S. President R. Reagan and M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was one of the positive developments this year. The United Nations proved capable of assisting peace-making efforts in protracted disputes like the ones concerning Afghanistan and the Iran-Iraq war. It is also working on solutions to the conflicts in Western Sahara and Cyprus. There are increasingly promising prospects for granting of independence to Namibia, and we in the UN Secretariat are ready to implement the UN plan on Namibia.

The proposal put forward by M.S. Gorbachev in Warsaw to create a European Center for Lessening the Danger of War as a venue for cooperation between NATO and the Warsaw Pact Organization is a very interesting and timely proposal, especially at a time when the climate of international relations is improving. The international community has various ways of imparting specific features to this idea. It would be useful to start scientifically substantiated and diplomatic debates on various propositions of such multilateral concepts and to work out various plans for their implementation.

As far as I personally am concerned, I have requested my colleagues in the Secretariat to carry out a preliminary study. We are prepared to make our contribution to the elaboration of these proposals by scientific and diplomatic circles.

The United Nations Organization, J. Perez de Cuellar went on, has demonstrated its usefulness in the settlement of regional conflicts in the world. Now there are real prospects of achieving progress on other unresolved conflicts. On the basis of its charter, the United Nations is patiently and persistently engaging in international cooperation for the sake of peace in regions where disputes and conflicts still exist. As regards the cessation of the Iran-Iraq war, the ensuring of the fulfillment of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan, and the achievement of settlements in the Near East, Southern Africa, Cyprus, and Cambodia, positive changes have occurred there this year.

I am tremendously interested in the Soviet leadership's new political thinking and I carefully follow the economic reforms it is striving to implement in Soviet society.

The principles of glasnost and restructuring which are being introduced in the Soviet Union have captured the international community's imagination. Their extension to international relations could help bring more openness in international talks and create new prospects in world affairs. Countries which understand each other's problems and difficulties are less inclined to go to war against one another.

Peace Committee Chairman Opens Antiwar Meeting

PM2709090388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Mankind's Common Tasks"]

[Text] An international information meeting of antiwar organizations and movements opened in Moscow on 23 September. Meetings of this kind have been held annually since 1984. This time around 200 representatives from almost 40 countries have come to Moscow.

The meeting was opened by the writer G.A. Borovik, chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace. The speech by G.Kh. Shakhnazarov, chairman of

the Soviet association of political sciences and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, was dedicated to questions of sociopolitical restructuring in Soviet society. Academician G.A. Arbatov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of the United States of America and Canada, dwelt on problems of restructuring in international relations.

Shcherbina Addresses 'Hydrogen Today' Conference
LD2609220788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] A world conference opened in Moscow on 26 September under the slogan "Hydrogen Today." This is what Boris Yevdokimovich Shcherbina, chairman of the Bureau for the Fuel and Energy Complex of the USSR Council of Ministers and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, said:

[Begin Shcherbina recording] Hydrogen power engineering, which came into being in the seventies, is an alternative to the traditional use of nonrenewable fuel reserves which has fundamental ecological advantages. It was to accelerate movement in this direction that the International Association for Hydrogen Power Engineering was created in 1974. Since then, the Association has constantly strengthened its positions, drawing an increasing number of scientists and specialists into its ranks and considering an increasingly specific range of questions at its scientific forums. Whereas in the initial stage discussion of global and regional forecasts and evaluations of the effect of hydrogen power engineering on the economy and environment prevailed, recently a tendency has come about to consider the specific projects and developments in the field which could ensure a noticeable result in the near future.

The slogan of the current, seventh world conference on hydrogen power engineering indicates clearly its main aim—to consider the contemporary level of science, equipment, and technology for the production, storage, transportation, and use of hydrogen which, on the one hand, enables individual tasks of power engineering, industry and transport to be solved effectively today and which, on the other hand, is the latest step toward the creation of improved and universal schemes and installations capable of expanding the scale and the geography of the use of hydrogen power engineering in the near future. [end recording]

'Keen Attention' Paid to New Soviet Thinking
OW2609103088 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Commentary by station observer Mulatov]

[Text] The latest Soviet proposal for strengthening security in the Asia-Pacific region has evoked enthusiastic response from countries in the region. An editorial in TOKYO SHIMBUN, an influential Japanese newspaper, said that the proposals made by Soviet leader Gorbachev in Krasnoyarsk are very rich in substance. Another Japanese newspaper, ASAHI SHIMBUN, pointed out that since the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations following the signing of the treaty on eliminating intermediate- and shorter-range guided missiles, efforts should now be concentrated on relaxation of the situation in the Asia-Pacific region.

Indonesia's Merdeka pointed out that the United States should give a positive response to the Soviet Union's constructive proposals. Should the United States eliminate its military bases in the Philippines, the Soviet Union will close its naval supply station at Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay. On this topic, our station observer Mulatov writes the following commentary:

A few days ago, I read an article in BEIJING REVIEW concerning the new thinking and changes in the Soviet foreign policy. The article was interesting and well written. It said: The Soviet stance on new thinking has attracted keen attention in countries all over the world. According to the authors, Rong Zhi and Zhang Wuzhuan, at the heart of the question is whether the Soviet Union can translate the theory into concrete action. Do the authors really believe that implementation of the new political thinking in world affairs competely depends on the Soviet Union?

As an old saying goes, one hand alone can't clap. The new thinking the Soviet Union has consistently advocated calls for the unity of all countries in the world, as well as joint efforts by two or more countries to strive to eliminate the factors of military danger and to carry out measures already agreed upon. This is the spirit reflected in the latest Soviet proposal for strengthening security in the Asia-Pacific region.

One of the proposals put forth by Soviet leader Gorbachev in the name of the Soviet Union is the holding of meetings, at any level, to discuss the question of setting up a negotiating body for analyzing and studying proposals by the Soviet Union and other countries concerning the security of the Asia-Pacific region. Such proposals should be discussed, first of all, by the Soviet Union, China, and the United States, who are permanent members of the UN Security Council. However, the Soviet Union does not demand the role of an absolute mediator. Neither do we underrate the Soviet responsibility in guaranteeing the security of the Asia-Pacific region. We are clearly aware that many questions depend on efforts by the United States and China to jointly formulate and implement measures to ensure the security of the Asia-Pacific region. Therefore, the Soviet Union has consistently appealed to all countries to conduct dialogue on a series of questions concerning the Asia-Pacific region because implementation of the new political thinking in actual work depends on all countries concerned.

United States & Canada

Reagan Speech at United Nations Viewed

Solton Notes 'New Overtones'

LD2709102888 Moscow World Service in English 0910 GMT 27 Sep 88

[Observer Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Text] The United States President, Ronald Reagan, who is about to complete his term in office, has aired his views on world developments in a speech to the current session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Here to comment on what he believes to be new overtones in Mr Reagan's speech is our own observer, Yuriy Solton. He writes:

Even though President Reagan's interpretation of some international issues has been one-sided and even confrontational at times, a good deal of what he said is welcome. One could not agree more with his pronouncement that for the first time there were emerging signs of relaxation in East-West differences. He said there was a prospect of a new era in Soviet-American relations and that of a new century of world peace. The President praised the Soviet-American INF Treaty and said he thought there was a possibility of signing a strategic arms limitation treaty in the nearest future which would halve the two countries' strategic arms. He was also optimistic about other arms control issues.

Mr Reagan's assessment of the underlying causes leading to the emergence of positive trends in the world can also be shared. These, in his words, go back to Geneva, to a [word indistinct] at the lakeside where he and the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party held their first meeting in a series of face-to-face exchanges, punctuated by frankness and amicability. He stressed that what had been started in Geneva had yielded results. Mr Reagan said in his speech in the United Nations that fundamental differences between the Soviet Union and the United States remained, something that would be absurd to argue with. More importantly, in my view, his speech voiced faith in the need and a possibility of a political dialogue with the Soviet Union and joint searches for ridding humanity of nuclear threat.

It's a pity that the Reagan administration had not come up with this assessment when it first came into office, leaving it until later years. I would imagine we could all have witnessed a far bigger stride toward a safer world.

TASS on 'Unbalanced Character'

LD2609193288 Moscow TASS in English 1835 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] New York September 26 TASS—Addressing today the session of the U.N. General Assembly, U.S. President Ronald Reagan pointed to substantial changes for the better in the international arena. He noted that "there is the prospect of not only a new era in Soviet-American relations but a new age of world peace".

In the past few years the tense talks between the USSR and the USA in Geneva became "more than an academic exercise". "There is movement. The logjam is broken," said the U.S. President commenting on the Soviet-American progress along the road of disarmament and lowering of international tension.

"In that place, by that peaceful lake in neutral Switzerland, Mr. Gorbachev and I did begin a new relationship based not just on engagement over the single issue of arms control, but on a broader agenda about our deeper differences, an agenda of human rights, regional conflicts, and bilateral exchanges between our peoples. Even on the arms control issue itself, we agreed to go beyond the past. To seek not just treaties that permit building weapons to higher levels, but revolutionary agreements that actually reduced, and even eliminated, a whole class of nuclear weapons."

The U.S. President also pointed to positive trends in settling regional conflicts, highlighting "hope of peace in the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan", as well as prospects for a peaceful settlement in Angola and Kampuchea.

However, the programme he set out, was distinguished for its unbalanced character and, in many cases, for clearly biased and confrontational assessment of several problems. Putting to the fore human rights, the President "forgot" about the need for ensuring them in his own country, concentrating on his attacks against some other countries, including the Soviet Union. His references were especially crude with respect to Cuba and Nicaragua. He emphasized that "the United States will continue to stand with those who" try to overthrow the Sandinista government.

Touching on the situation in Afghanistan, the U.S. President preferred to by-pass completely the burning problem complicating the implementation of the Geneva accords: their crude violation by Pakistan which supports extremists.

Ronald Reagan said that the Soviet-American discussions on nuclear testing and defense and space had been "useful". However, he pointed out that "the United States reaffirms its commitment to its Strategic Defense Initiative and our offer to share the benefits of strategic defenses with others".

The President pointed to potentialities of such institutions as the United Nations. However, Reagan did not make any specific statements about the USA's readiness to support and strengthen the U.N.

Reaction to Shevardnadze-Shultz Talks Noted

PM2609112188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent L. Koryavin dispatch: "United States: Main Topic on the Agenda"]

[Text] Washington—Once more the U.S. State Department press center is in a stir. News reports are being "flashed" out of there, each dominated by the disarmament problem, the main topic on the agenda of the talks being held here between E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz.

Every reaction by journalists shows that both sides emphasize the importance of implementing practical accords in the disarmament sphere. In this context they point out in particular the already existing foundation, which was laid during the meetings between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan. Substantial progress in preparing for the disarmament process now comes from regular meetings between leaders of the two countries' foreign policy departments.

It was noted during the meeting that certain practical progress has been achieved in some areas, such as the limitation of heavy bombers and their armaments, mobile ICBM's, subceilings on combat charges, and verification questions. At the same time, there is still some way to go before achieving accords on the limitation of sea-launched cruise missiles.

Observers are focusing their attention mainly on prospects for an agreement on a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive arms. Under conditions of observance of the ABM Treaty, as Soviet sources emphasize.

Many commentaries contain this sentence: "The Russians have not come empty-handed." The fact that the Soviet delegation's brief contains new practical proposals, especially on questions of strategic offensive arms and the elimination of chemical arsenals, is pointed out in a commentary by Don Oberdorfer, the well-known WASHINGTON POST observer.

At the same time, a desire to distort the USSR's stance and generate mistrust in it can still be detected in the political atmosphere in Washington. This applies not only to quite a few of the U.S. press organs. Here is an example: Everyone has recognized the importance of the treaty on Afghanistan. It transpires, however, that Congress has chosen this time to welcome beneath its dome and listen to one of the Afghan insurgents who told the legislators that the United States must supply his gangs with arms, including Stinger missiles, even after the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

The two presidential candidates, Bush and Dukakis, have included the topic of Soviet-U.S. relations and mainly disarmament questions in their election campaigns. They stand on almost identical positions today. Both call for policy toward the USSR to be pursued from a position of strength and for a "strong" America to be used as an element of pressure at the negotiating table. This stance is far removed from realism. It runs counter to the spirit of present Soviet-U.S. relations. Journalists are asking how this stance is to be perceived—as an election campaign maneuver or as the finally formulated political creed of both candidates. This question was also being asked today at G. Bush's residence, where a meeting with USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze has just begun at the former's initiative.

Petrovskiy Addresses Meeting of U.S. Editors

PM2609085388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Editors Seminar"]

[Text] New York, 22 Sep—The traditional seminar of U.S. newspaper editors, organized by the United Nations Association of the United States of America and timed to coincide with the opening of the 43d UN General Assembly session, has ended its work.

The Soviet Union advocates the utmost consolidation and enhancement of the United Nations' authority, USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.F. Petrovskiy said, speaking at the association's invitation. We note with gratification that the United Nations is beginning to take its proper position in an interdependent world, becoming not only a spokesman for states' multifaceted interests but also an instrument for balancing them and a real center for coordinating their political actions, he noted. The dialogue on shaping an all-embracing system of international security, which is successfully developing within the United Nations, reveals the need to concentrate attention on three main tasks. These are the primacy of international law, the enhancement of the role played by the main UN organs, and operations to maintain peace. In this regard there is an acutely felt need for UN member states to back international efforts with their own deeds and efforts.

Information Exchange Meeting With U.S. Begins

LD2609110788 Moscow TASS in English 1051 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—A plenary meeting has opened a Soviet-American information exchange meeting here today. Soviet and American representatives met for the second time to discuss topical problems in that area. The first meeting was held in Washington in April this year.

Opening the meeting, head of the Soviet delegation, chairman of the board of the NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY (APN) Valentin Falin underlined that the

meeting was called upon to play a major role not only for improving bilateral Soviet-American relations but also for developing mutual understanding in the world as a whole.

The floor was then taken by head of the American delegation, Director of the United States Information Agency (USIA) Charles Wick, who said that such contacts between the two countries became possible owing to the progress in the American-Soviet relations, which was attained as a result of the summit Geneva, Reykjavik, Washington and Moscow meetings.

Charles Wick agreed with Valentin Falin's thought that "the USSR and the United States are in the same boat and therefore they should choose the course, taking into account each other's interests."

Speaking at a dinner in honour of the American delegation, Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Anatoliy Adamishin said that the Soviet Union firmly intended to improve relations with the United States. "I want our American guests to know that this is our long-range and serious policy," he said.

Meetings by groups are to be held in the afternoon to discuss concrete issues of development of cooperation between the two countries in radio and television, press, culture, art, book publishing and cinema.

There are up to 70 representatives in either of the delegations. The Soviet side to the meeting is represented by senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, the Foreign Ministry of the USSR, managers of Soviet mass media. The American delegation includes high-placed USIA employees, prominent representatives of business circles, journalists.

The meeting is to end on September 28.

Yakovlev Meets With Wick

LD2409132788 Moscow TASS in English 1324 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the Politbureau and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received today Charles Wick, director of the United States Information Agency (USIA). They discussed questions connected with the state and prospects of Soviet-American exchanges in the sphere of information, book publishing, culture and art.

Moscow Television Interviews USIA Director

LD2509211588 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1458 GMT 25 Sep 88

[From the "International Panorama" program, presented by Stanislav Kondrashov; interview with USIA Director Charles Wick by Vladimir Zvyagin in New York; date not given—interview recorded in English with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] [Kondrashov] The second Soviet-U.S. meeting on information exchanges will take place in Moscow this coming week. The head of the U.S. delegation will be Charles Wick, director of the United States Information Agency [USIA]. He is a guest on our television screens:

[Zvyagin] Mr Wick, recent months have seen certain changes for the better. Positive trends are emerging in Soviet-U.S. relations. Are you satisfied with these changes in the ties between our countries?

[Wick] I am very satisfied with the current situation in our relations. I take profound satisfaction in cooperation with many Soviet leaders whom I have had the opportunity to meet in person, Mr Gorbachev, Aleksandr Yakovlev, Mr Falin, Aksenov, and others. They are all open to any suggestion.

[Zvyagin] In your view, in what areas should we try to achieve more? Where do reserves for cooperation between us still lie hidden, and what are the obstacles holding this process back?

[Wick] I think that too little is still being done to achieve greater reciprocity and freedom of operation for representatives of the mass media. We consider that Soviet journalists can come freely to us in the United States and can communicate freely with workers in the electronic and printed press. We do not feel any reprocity on this issue in the Soviet Union. Nonetheless, in the last year or 18 months, the situation has changed considerably for the better. We also continue to think that the incessant jamming of broadcasts from Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe as well as Deutsche Welle and other stations is an extremely serious problem and a violation of several multilateral agreements.

I think that these specific issues will most certainly be raised at the meetings in Moscow between 26 and 28 September which will be attended by 65 leading workers of noncommercial and governmental communications organs in the United States.

But although there are problems between us, the new political thinking proposed by Mr Gorbachev is certainly being developed in a worthy way in the greater glasnost and openness of your representatives. They say straight out that there is no going back to the old style and that the former traditions of avoiding discussion and resolving acute questions are unacceptable to them.

[Zvyagin] I think that the Soviet side too will have quite a few complaints to make to the U.S. side, especially as regards the working conditions of Soviet journalists in the United States. However, the aim of our dialogue is not confrontation but an attempt to outline the ways both the United States and the USSR can expand the exchange of information and improve communication at various levels. From this point of view, what does the upcoming meeting in Moscow have to offer?

[Wick] The aim of the upcoming talks in Moscow, as was the case with the first such meeting in the spring in Washington, is for both sides to state their views on what they think is incorrect, what is worrying them, and what problems remain to be resolved. Everyone has the opportunity to state his or her views, and the main advantage of this discussion is that each of us can put forward his or her viewpoints.

The Moscow meeting will proceed on the format of the Washington meeting. People involved in publishing books, organizing exhibitions, publishing newspapers and journals, the cinema, and who work in radio and television will meet within the framework of several subcommittees. Well in advance we proposed—and the Soviet side supported this—several questions to be included on the agenda. Apart from the above-mentioned subcommittees, a subcommittee on intergovernmental cooperation will also be in operation.

[Zvyagin] The Worldnet television service which comes under the aegis of the USIA will soon begin implementing joint projects with USSR State Radio and Television. What is the aim of this cooperation?

[Wick] The joint projects between Worldnet and USSR State Television and Radio will be very visible symbols of the progress that has already been achieved. The task at all our meetings, regardless of the nature of the topics being discussed, is to achieve better mutual understanding. The more energetic we are in our discussions, the better we come to understand the viewpoint of the other side. All this only goes to emphasize the fairness of the clauses of the preamble to the agreement on exchange between our countries which was signed in November 1985 by General Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan.

[Zvyagin] One often encounters serious concern about the fact that worldwide television broadcasting is not very far off and that this will give larger television powers the opportunity to impose their values and traditional views on the world and peoples in smaller countries who may hold other views and prefer other values. That is what the United States does. What is your view on this problem, which is not so much technical but ideological and political in nature?

[Wick] In my view there is no problem here. In our television in the West we encourage the existing pluralist approach to broadcasting. Its essence is that each person must be given the opportunity to receive information from any source. That reflects the provisions of the UN Declaration on Human Rights. A person must decide for himself or herself what values suit him or her and what to believe. We do not think that the government should be the only judge as to what the public should watch and listen to. Therefore, once again, there is no problem here. The more information reaches people, the more diverse the opinions expressed, the easier it will be for these people to decide what suits them or vice versa.

[Zvyagin] Nonetheless, the telecommunications media are often used to disseminate information which kindles hostility between peoples. Can it really be the case that these media should also become part of the worldwide mechanism for disseminating information?

[Wick] We in Western radio and television have never taken part in any activity calculated to kindle hostility or discontent among peoples. We continue to adhere to the view that governments should not have the right to censor information which in their view might kindle hostility. The firmest guarantee against kindling hostility may be an open society in which any opinion, any information is accessible to all.

[Zvyagin] My last question: As director of the United States Information Agency, what legacy would you like to leave to your successors in order to reinforce and develop what has already been achieved in Soviet-U.S. relations?

[Wick] I do not think so much about any legacy as about my hope and conviction that those who will take over from the current leadership at USIA will have the opportunity to continue and strengthen the areas where we still have things to achieve, just as we have strengthened, on behalf of our country, peace and mutual understanding with other peoples on the basis of what was achieved before our time.

One can hope that the exchange between our countries which is implemented under the jurisdiction of USIA, Worldnet, and other organizations will help achieve our common aim—profound understanding of each other, the destruction of all kinds of stereotypes, and that our powers should adhere to firm ideas on the fact that freedom of the individual, the right to a free choice of occupation, the right to freedom of emigration, and other such things which we have touched on in our conversation, should be guaranteed. When this position is secured, we on both sides will consider that peace can be guaranteed and that the arms race is truly the only obstacle on the path toward the survival of mankind.

[Zvyagin] Mr Wick, thank you for the interview.

[Wick] Thank you.

[Kondrashov] I am ready to agree with Mr Wick when he says that a government must not be the only judge of what the public looks at and listens to. In my view he is also right when he asserts that the firmest guarantee against the kindling of hostility may be an open society in which any information and any opinions will be accessible to all.

There is one thing in what he says and in his tone that puts me on my guard. It appears the director is infected with that arrogant infallibility complex, which we at least repudiate. For example, Mr Wick solemnly proclaims: We in Western radio and television have never taken

part in any activity calculated to kindle hostility and discontent among peoples. Well, permit me to say I don't believe you, Mr Wick. How can anyone say that for the whole of the West, and for all time at that. I think that here you even encroach on the principle of pluralism, for in practice the pluralism of the Western mass media includes both the good and the bad, the honest and the slanderous, the serious and responsible, as well as gutter-level scandal, if you will pardon the expression.

If you poll the Americans on this subject—and incidentally there have been several such polls—you will see that quite a high percentage do not believe the U.S. press.

Nonetheless, we wish every success to the information meeting in Moscow.

Kornilov Comments on Information Stereotypes
LD2309201488 Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 23 TASS—TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

On September 26, Moscow will become the venue for Soviet-U.S. talks on information exchanges. Noting that this will be already a second meeting of the two countries' representatives in the field of information, many observers stress that the very fact of holding such meetings proves that the positive changes occurring on the international plane and in the Soviet-American relations dictate the imperative need to give up erstwhile cliches and stereotypes in the pursuit of foreign policy propaganda in order to give the people a more objective idea of the policies of, and life in, the USSR and the USA.

And this is, in fact, so. The need today is for greater boldness in order to take the Soviet-American relations away from the sphere of confrontation on to the tracks of confidence and mutually advantageous cooperation. Information is coming to play an especially important role. Both sides admit that, to make progress, it is necessary to give up the "enemy image" which was shaped over many years, to remove from the road the old propaganda cliches which hamper mutual understanding. And this is not just a mere statement of fact. I think that today one can say with full justification that the Soviet audience has already begun to get a broader information about the United States, and the American public—about life in the Soviet Union. The foreign policy measures of the USSR, the restructuring of Soviet internal life and openness—these are that motive force which paves the way in the United States for the truth about our country and, thus, changes the notions of many Americans about the real situation in the USSR.

Since the first visit of Charles Z. Wick, director of the U.S. Information Agency [USIA], to the USSR in January 1986, the Soviet-American exchanges in the information field have notably intensified. Much has been done to restore cultural exchanges, severed in January 1980 by the Carter administration. The Soviet-American cooperation in the field of publishing has become more active: Suffice it to recall that 759 U.S. firms took part in the last Moscow International Book Fair, with which 166 export and import contracts were concluded.

Yes, certain steps forward have been made—but, of course, one ought not to overestimate them. Looking through—today, on the eve of the Moscow meeting—some leading U.S. newspapers and USIA publications, we observe that many former stereotypes are still very much alive, that inventions about a "Soviet military threat" with which one is fed up to the back of his teeth and about "violations of human rights" allegedly practiced in the USSR and on and on, are still often passed off as objective and honest information. "The Voice of America", working under the USIA, has not discontinued its attempts to impute to our country "complicity in terrorism", and the same "Voice" is still bent, especially lately, on painting a distorted picture of the substance and objectives of the USSR's restructuring and its national policy. One feature of the process has been this: Circles within the USA which cannot (or wouldn't?) give up the old confrontational approaches, go out of their way to ascribe to others their own sins groundlessly while accusing the Soviet side of misinformation. For what can one say, for instance, about a USIA report on the USSR's "Vigorous Actions in the Era of Openness", sent to the U.S. Congress in March, and about some of the subsequent statements of the leaders of the Information Agency?

USIA officials allege with a serious mien that the Soviet mass media are "misinforming the public" by linking the appearance of AIDS virus with U.S. R and D activities in the field of biological weapons. It will be recalled, however, that the first source which said so was not the Soviet, but the American press, including the newspaper "GAY COMMUNITY NEWS", the journal "LANCET", and U.S. specialised publications. The USIA is trying to make the public believe that it is the USSR that is "spreading rumors" to the effect that "Americans bring infants from Latin America, kill them and sell their organs for transplantation." But the fact is that these "rumors" did not originate in the USSR: They originated in Latin America itself, viz., in the press of Honduras, Guatemala and Paraguay, which was, incidentally, reported by the U.S. newspaper "THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR". And so it is that in the USIA they just cannot renounce this old stereotype: If the media report something that causes Washington's irritation and protests, then the Soviet Union is just bound to be behind all this....

Addressing quite a while ago a convention of the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasting in Las Vegas, the U.S. President proclaimed himself to be a champion of destroying the "wall preventing the free flow of information and ideas". But who is it that is erecting or at least preserving such a wall? Here are but a few facts. About fifteen telebridges have

been organised over the past two years. Around 170 million people have seen them in the Soviet Union. As to the American televiewers who saw them, they numbered from 12 to 14 million. The USSR published four times as many U.S. editions than the United States does the Soviet. Is that a parity? Can one regard as normal the fact that in zealously advocating an objective exchange of information, the USIA leaders at the same time keep their reader and televiewer ignorant about the substance of many important foreign policy initiatives of the USSR, by hushing them up or publishing instead such commentaries which distort their trust and sense?

In a word, there are many questions to be tackled through dialogue, through discussions. We want to see these discussions pursued in a businesslike and constructive manner, consonant with the need for developing contacts and strengthening mutual understanding and trust. What is required for this? I think that it is above all a resolute renunciation of the confrontational style in polemics, of attempts to foist one's own "rules of the game" on the partner, and, of course, the realisation of the fact that a broader exchange of information, like cooperation in other fields, is a two-way steet.

Bush-Dukakis Television Debate Assessed

PRAVDA on Debate

PM2709192388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Viktor Linnik "Correspondent's Comment": "Bush-Dukakis Televison Debate"]

[Text] New York, 26 Sep—Yesterday, in the university lecture hall in Winston-Salem (North Carolina) Vice President George Bush and Governor M. Dukakis of Massachusetts met face to face for the first time in a televised debate. It is believed that the 90-minute spectacle was watched by around 100 million people.

The form of the debate was as follows: Each participant was questioned in turn by three journalists, 2 minutes being allowed for the reply and 1 minute for the rival's rebuttal. The questions were varied—from Bush's attitude toward restructuring in the USSR to the elucidation of details about Dukakis' personality. But most of the questions concerned domestic policy and the economy. And it was here that Dukakis was perhaps stronger, repeatedly reminding viewers of such administration "achievements" as the gigantic budget deficit, millions of homeless people on the streets of U.S. cities, and cuts in federal aid to give the underprivileged access to higher education. Bush was at pains to advertise the Republicans' successes in the foreign policy sphere, stressing, in particular, the progress in Soviet-American relations. Of course, such old standards of the presidential campaign as Bush's involvement in "Irangate" or Dukakis' change of stance on the Strategic Defense Initiative were not overlooked. Dukakis, in fact, has gone from opposing SDI to backing the idea of research in the context of this program.

For 90 minutes the viewers were inundated with statistics, mutual accusations, and statements like "I have done this," "I have achieved that." In short, the feeling was that the candidates had been pretty well coached by their advisers.

On the eve of the debate people gave the advantage to Dukakis, pointing out his past experience as a television announcer. But according to the majority of observers, there was no "knockout" during the television debate. A poll immediately after the debate showed that 45 percent consider that Dukakis came out on top, 36 percent named Bush as the winner, and 19 percent saw the outcome of the duel as a draw. Considering that Dukakis is behind at the moment, however, a draw for him can be deemed a victory.

Fesunenko Comments

OW2609163888 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1420 GMT 26 Sep 88

["The World Today program, presented by Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] An event which had been awaited with considerable impatience by Americans took place yesterday. Finally, the long-distance duel between Bush and Dukakis turned into a face-to-face battle. The candidates for the presidency met in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where the first round of the pre-election debate on topical political problems took place.

In the area of foreign policy and arms control, special attention was devoted to relations with the Soviet Union. Bush announced that the United States should welcome restructuring and glasnost but should, at the same time, keep its eyes open and demonstrate, as he said, caution.

Defending the concept that peace is maintained from the position of strength, the vice president affirmed that should he come to power, he would force the pace of SDI research and as soon as the space arms system is ready, immediately deploy it.

Developing this theme, Dukakis stated that he considers the SDI program to be useless and spoke out in favor of limiting expenditures in this area to its pre-Reagan level.

Two-thirds of the 1 and ½ hour debate was dedicated to social and economic problems which are presently causing the Americans particular concern. The candidates spoke with one voice about their concern over the spread of drugs and the AIDS epidemic. At the same time they differed in their view of the reasons for and the economic

ramifications of the colossal budget deficit and U.S. foreign debt. They did not agree on ways to bring relief to the millions of Americans who do not have a roof over their heads.

In the opinion of the local experts, neither of the candidates managed to win a decisive advantage in this verbal duel which, by the way, early estimates suggest was seen by some 100 million Americans from all parts of the country. Even though during the quick opinion poll conducted by NBC immediately following the debate 44 percent of the viewers thought that Dukakis had won and 36 percent favored Bush, experts nevertheless think that the results of the election race remain in the balance. Soon another round of television debates will be held.

Bush, Dukakis at Odds on Arms Issues
PM2609094188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Sep 88 First Edition p 3

[Article by D. Klimov: "Position or Tactics? Military Problems and the U.S. Presidential Contenders' Election Struggle"]

[Text] Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts and incumbent U.S. Vice President George Bush have entered the final lap in the long race for the presidency. As November approaches, the two candidates' positions are becoming increasingly clear. The most important positions include the question of arms control. Today it is this question that is arousing particularly sharp disputes between the two contenders. According to Bush himself, "very, very great differences of opinion" are arising between him and Bush in their approach to this problem.

The point is that M. Dukakis' views on a number of the military programs initiated by the incumbent administration are sharply at odds with White House views. It is primarily a question of SDI, which the Democratic contender has described as a "fantasy and a swindle" and has called for "an end to spending billions of dollars on it." However, Dukakis is not talking about dropping this program altogether but about sharply reducing it so that it does not go beyond the framework of the "traditional," that is, the sole possible interpretation of the ABM Treaty. Professor G. Steinberg, the Democratic contender's foreign policy adviser, attests that if Dukakis comes to power, he will cut appropriations on SDI from $3.7 billion this fiscal year to approximately $1 billion and intends to confine it to laboratory research.

But the governor proposes his own program instead of SDI—a program which he calls, by way of analogy, the "Conventional Arms Initiative." This means that Dukakis intends to devote more attention to nonnuclear conventional forces. He is pushing for a buildup in these forces. In fact this could turn into an equally dangerous arms race. His speeches also contain an extremely dubious call for the United States to obtain the capability to "wage and win a conventional war."

As regards strategic arms programs, Dukakis opposes the rail-mobile MX missiles. Speaking at the annual session of the Atlantic Council in Washington, he stated that "spending billions on rail-mobile MX missiles must not be an immediate task of our country." Nor does he support the program for creating mobile "Midgetmen" ICBM's. However, as Steinberg explains, although Dukakis opposes the MX and "Midgetmen" missiles, he supports the modernization of other elements of the nuclear arsenal, for instance the deployment of "Trident" submarine ballistic missiles and bombers using "Stealth" technology. Dukakis also leaves open the possibility of later adopting a decision to create a new surface-based missile.

The Democratic contender states his adherence to the policy of "nuclear deterrence." He also voiced his disagreement with the opinion of prominent politicians, such as former Defense Secretary R. McNamara; M. Bundy, former special national security assistant to the president; G. Smith, former head of the U.S. delegation at strategic arms limitation talks; and G. Kennan, a veteran of the U.S. diplomatic service; who call for renunciation of first use of nuclear weapons. Instead the governor proclaims the quite vague formula of "not being the first to use nuclear weapons at an early stage."

Dukakis, in particular, thinks that the United States must have "sufficiently modern and flexible forces," and advocates U.S. creation of new arms together with its NATO allies and Israel.

At the same time the Democratic contender thinks that "this does not require us to continue the development of new and more costly nuclear arms systems with no end in sight when, owing to President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, we have probably the most favorable opportunity of making the world more secure." He calls for a 50-percent or more reduction in strategic nuclear arsenals and the prevention of the arms race on earth and in space. Dukakis particularly stresses the fact that it is the "Star Wars" program that stands in the way of attaining another agreement. He also welcomed the conclusion of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

As for George Bush, he calls for the comprehensive development of the SDI program. "I support the deployment of SDI as soon as is possible," Bush stated. The Republican candidate advocates the continuation of the programs for MX missiles and B-1B bomber production.

However, Bush vigorously supported the agreement on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles and by and large intends to continue the process of talks with the Soviet Union. But he gives first place to the problem of conventional arms, allotting a secondary role to strategic arms talks. In effect, Bush is endeavoring to link these questions, which in practice will only mean complicating the strategic arms talks. Even so, he does not deem SDI an obstacle to talks.

The incumbent U.S. vice president has criticized Dukakis' initiative in the arms sphere for putting great emphasis on modernizing the U.S. conventional rather than strategic potential. "I would like us to achieve new agreements with the Soviet Union on arms control," Bush stated. "But if we make unilateral concessions as regards modernizing our strategic forces, I think that the Soviet Union will have no incentive to hold serious talks."

At this point Bush is making a special effort to score additional points in the election race by concentrating on arms control questions and by depicting Dukakis as an absolute ignoramus in the military-political sphere. Furthermore, he is endeavoring to play on nationalist feelings by arguing that Dukakis wants to weaken America's positions.

It is difficult now to make a final assessment of the positions of the contenders from America's two leading bourgeois parties. One must take into consideration the fact that, as experience shows, a particular candidate's election platform has on several occasions changed most radically after he has become president. Contenders have also climbed down to more conservative positions and have been observed to move in the opposite direction toward greater realism under the influence of a whole series of circumstances.

Quayle Comments on USSR Questioned

LD2309153588 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2003 GMT 22 Sep 88

[From "The World Today" program, presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Text] I want to point out that among Americans, there are still few supporters of the new political thinking. Apparently, Americans to some degree reflect the sentiments of the outgoing administration; if spokesmen for Mr Bush or Mr Dukakis were here, supposedly everything would be different.

I do not know, of course, but can Dan Quayle, the vice presidential candidate, be called a spokesman for Bush? They are campaigning together, but if you listen to Quayle, it is not new thinking, but a sort of thinking that belongs totally to the past. Quayle, by the way, is one of the youngest politicians, which makes this particularly strange. While expressing regret that the style of Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, is liked in the West, he at the same time observes—to describe it mildly: In my view, Gorbachev is no different from those who led this communist state in the past. Or: Restructuring, as Quayle stated in an interview with a WASHINGTON POST correspondent, is nothing but refined Stalinism. So there you have it! What is more, all those conclusions are drawn on the principle: I haven't read it, but I'll express an opinion all the same. Quayle admitted that he had never been to the Soviet Union or any other socialist country and that he was making his categorical conclusions on the basis of conversations with certain unnamed administration officials.

What can one say about this? First, categorical judgments of this sort have never been the best and most attractive feature of politicians. Second, one should not make the same mistake twice. The present administration has been rebuked for its ignorance by Americans themselves so many times already that someone who wants to the second most important job in the country should, no doubt, have taken these mistakes into account and been better informed, particularly as the cornerstone of world development in the form of Soviet-U.S. relations is at stake.

U.S. Corporations Invest in Candidates

OW2309143688 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1420 GMT 21 Sep 88

[From "The World Today" program, presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Text] Here is a brief news roundup from the United States. Naturally, the thing that interests Americans right now is the election struggle between Dukakis and Bush. I feel that to some extent a unique sporting interest is becoming apparent here: who will come out victorious.

Perhaps this is somewhat farfetched because, unlike sport, where simple competitiveness prevails, here we find a shadowy side about which less is said but which nevertheless plays a role. If not decisive, this role is nevertheless important. What I am talking about here is the question of financial support for the campaign.

It is believed that the present election is the most expensive in the history of the United States. Both the Republican George Bush and the Democrat Michael Dukakis have received immeasurably more monetary donations from the various millionaires than any past presidential candidate. According to official figures, some 220 separate $100,000 donations have been credited to their accounts. How much was raised in secret contributions no one can tell.

Republicans and Democrats will spend some half a billion dollars on the election campaign. This is a tremendous amount, especially if one keeps in mind that in 1984 the sum did not exceed $22 million.

We often speak of the convergence of business and U.S. national interests. I feel therefore that precisely now, when much comes into play in determining the next president of the country, this process appears in full view for all to see.

These people are millionaires because they do not waste money. Therefore, if they are prepared to peel off multiples of $100,000 for the Republicans and the Democrats, you can be sure that they know what they are doing and what dividends this will later bring.

It is curious to see that some of the large corporations are acting totally without principle. Obviously no one knows who will be the lucky one in the presidential race. Therefore, just in case, they support both candidates. For example, the Coca Cola Company, acting it seems along the lines of the old English saying, "Don't put all your eggs in one basket," made a $75,000 contribution to Bush in May, while in July it donated $50,000 to Dukakis. Thus, no matter who comes to power, he will have to remember this charitable gesture.

U.S. To Halt Convoys in Persian Gulf

LD2609113088 Moscow TASS in English 1057 GMT 26 Sep 88

["U.S. Intends To Stop Shepherding Tanks in Persian Gulf"—TASS headline]

[Text] Washington September 26 TASS—The Reagan administration has notified Kuwait that "American warships will no longer form convoys to protect U.S. flagged tankers transiting the Persian Gulf", THE WASHINGTON POST reported qutoing U.S. officials.

The newspaper points out that this decision, which "reflects a desire by U.S. Navy officials" to reduce the squadron of U.S. combatant ships in the Gulf zone, was made because "Iran has posed no naval threats to commercial shipping interests since the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war."

The U.S. Administration intends to reduce the strength of U.S. Navy ships in the Gulf over a number of months, "but will keep six or seven warships in the Gulf at all times under the Middle East force", THE WASHINGTON POST writes. "The Navy currently has about 25 ships in the Gulf, including seven destroyers and cruisers, six frigates and six mine sweepers".

Kozyakov on 'Annoyance' Over Wright Disclosures

LD2409182888 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Vladislav Kozyakov commentary]

[Text] The statement House Speaker Jim Wright made this summer that last year the CIA instigated unrest in Nicaragua has caused annoyance in the White House and among the Republican members of the Congress. Here's a commentary by Vladislav Kozyakov:

The speaker of the House acted out of the best of intentions, as he gave some details of a covert CIA operation. Charged with divulging official secrets, he said that he merely told the truth. At the beginning of July, the Nicaraguan Government announced it uncovered a conspiracy known as the Melton Plan, after the United States ambassador to Managua, Richard Melton. The idea was to provoke a wave of antigovernment actions, create chaos, and frustrate the Nicaraguan Government's efforts to establish peace. As part of that plan, riots were instigated in the city of Nandaime; 40 instigators were arrested. As a result, the talks between the government and the contras broke down.

The speaker of the House has now confirmed that he has clear evidence that the CIA covertly instigated the demonstrations in Nicaragua in order to provoke the Sandinist government into breaking off the peace talks. The CIA provided that evidence itself at a congressional hearing. Following that statement, the House Ethics Committee opened an inquiry.

This is not the first time that CIA covert operations have come to light, and it must be said that these operations are far from ethical. It was on personal orders from the United States President that the CIA mined Nicaragua's harbors. It was with the knowledge of the top CIA brass that a special manual for the contras was compiled, instructing them in action against civilians supporting the Sandinist government. The arms-to-Iran row revealed how the CIA bypassed Congress and used proceeds from the sales of arms to Iran to finance covert aid to the contras in Nicaragua.

These facts call into question the sincerity of official pronouncements made in Washington on its good intentions with respect to Nicaragua and its commitment to settling the conflict in Central America. That appears to be the reason why Jim Wright has come to so much trouble, having given details of a secret CIA operation.

U.S. Scientist Commits SDI 'Blunder'

LD2509155088 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] The other day I came across a peculiar report in one American paper. It mentioned a document that had just been declassified in the United States. The document indicates the prominent physician Edward Teller had made a serious blunder in his theoretical justification of laser and other weapons earmarked for the SDI project.

Meanwhile, Edward Teller is said to be on friendly terms with President Reagan, whose trust he enjoys. Many people attribute the President's commitment to SDI to the influence and ideas of this physicist. When some American scientists publicly pointed to the lack of scientific justification of the Star Wars plans, it was Teller who used his scientific prestige in persuading the President to continue SDI research.

The recently declassified documents, dated 1983 and 1984, now show that experiments conducted as far back as that already proved Edward Teller had seriously overestimated the opportunities for using X-ray lasers in SDI, which means the scientific inconsistency of one of the fundamental ideas of the Star Wars plan was revealed already at that time. The very fact that a scientist has made a scientific mistake is by no means surprising. Even the greatest scientists made serious blunders more than once. Another aspect can't fail to cause concern, namely that this mistake was known already 4-5 years ago, yet it was hushed up, and no practical conclusions were drawn on that basis.

I believe, writes Valentin Zorin, one of the possible explanations is that the largest munitions corporations, like Rockwell International, Lockheed, Grumman, and others were interested in further income-promising orders. Obviously they used their prestige in pressing for further SDI research, even in spite of its scientific inconsistency. As a result, billions of dollars have been pumped over these years out of the pockets of American taxpayers and into the bank accounts of these corporations. Yet the whole matter doesn't boil down to expenditure alone. The current administration's stubborn commitment to the Star Wars project has been a stumbling block in the way of an agreement to slash strategic offensive arsenals. In fact, progress along the path of disarmament and removal of the nuclear threat has been victimized in favor of an idea which is now understood to have always been questionable in terms of its practicability.

Soviet-U.S. Talks Held on Space Biology

LD2509100888 Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Washington September 24 TASS—The U.S.-USSR joint working group on space biology and medicine has been in session at the Goddard space flight centre over the past week. The results of the session were summed up at a briefing in Washington on Friday.

Samuel Keller, deputy assistant NASA administrator, said at the briefing that the two sides had exchanged scientific reports on a number of medical problems and informed each other of results of activities on the ground and in space. The group had discussed on-going cooperation within the framework of the Soviet programme of biological satellites of the Cosmos series. Besides, matters connected with future space flights had been considered, and possibilities for future cooperation had been discussed. Mr. Keller said much attention had been devoted to the question of a form in which an exchange of medical data would be carried out.

"Our Soviet colleagues", he said, "are known to have gained a considerable amount of data in recent years on the cosmonauts' long-duration flights on board the station Mir. Next week we also hope to resume space flights and begin to gather space flight data. The two sides are interested in getting data from cosmonauts and astronauts in a form which would ensure effective exchanges of information between the two sides".

Besides, possible experimental flight opportunities on board the Soviet orbital station Mir and during the launching of the U.S. orbital research module Spacelab had been discussed.

Yevgeniy Ilin, head of the Department of Biomedical Problems of the USSR Ministry of Health, pointed out at the briefing that the chief results of the session was that "main directions of future joint projects were coordinated".

China

CPC Central Committee Meets for 13th Plenum

LD2609114488 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Beijing September 26 TASS—The third plenary meeting of the 13th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China opened here today. On behalf of the Politbureau it was addressed by Zhao Ziyang, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

He focused his attention on the improvement of the economic situation in the country, the implementation of an all-round reform in a planned way and under a single leadership, as well as on the consolidation of the party's leadership in the realization of the plans.

Yao Yilin, member of the Standing Committee of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the party and deputy premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, made a report at the plenary meeting and gave explanations on some problems connected with the draft reform of prices and wages.

The plenary meeting will work for five days, the XINHUA news agency reports.

Soviet, Chinese Cities Exchange Tourists

OW2609134788 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] On Saturday, with flowers and warmth, residents of Blagoveshchensk, a Soviet city in the Far East, welcomed a group of tourists from China's Heihe City. On the other hand, a group of Blagoveshchensk residents traveled across the Amur River, or the Heilong Jiang, to visit Heihe City. They have thus opened a new tourist route linking these two frontier cities of the Soviet Union and China. This year the two sides will make 12 visits to each other, each visit taking only 1 day. Next year the number of such visits is expected to reach some 100.

In addition to the Blagoveshchensk residents, working people of other cities, towns, and villages of Amur Oblast will also visit their neighboring country, China.

Forestry Delegation Holds Talks With PRC

OW2709011288 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Excerpt] A symposium sponsored by the Federation of International Forest Research Organizations ended in Beijing not long ago. A Soviet delegation attended the symposium. While staying in China, Soviet experts held fruitful talks with Chinese experts. The Soviet delegation visited China's Forestry Ministry. There the Soviet and the Chinese delegates held talks and signed a memorandum. At the talks they discussed China's proposal on building joint ventures and hiring Chinese workers to work in the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

Soviets End Flight Demonstrations in PRC

OW2709095588 Beijing in Russian to the USSR 1900 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] A group of Soviet pilots carrying out demonstration flights of Yak-42 aircraft, headed by well-known Soviet aviation designer Dmitriyev, successfully concluded the last session of their demonstration flights in China in the maritime city of Dalian on 26 September.

The group of Soviet pilots carried out demonstration flights and technical exchanges in Beijing, Urumqi, Xian, Chengdu, Wuhan, and Dalian. Local governments and aviation departments extended a warm welcome to the guests.

Kiev, Wuhan Exchange Friendship Delegations

OW2609105788 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 18 Sep 88

[Text] Dear friends, we have reported the recent visit to our country by a delegation from the Hubei provincial chapter of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries and the China-USSR Friendship Association, led by (Shen Jian), vice chairman of the chapter. The visit was made in accordance with the program of cooperation between the corresponding amity organizations of our two countries. According to the program, the two chapters of the friendship association in Hubei Province and Wuhan City will exchange delegations with their counterparts in the Ukrainian SSR and Kiev City for mutual visits. The Ukrainian delegation will make a return visit to China in 1989.

There were various contacts between the enterprises, scientific research institutions, and schools in Wuhan and Kiev back in the 1950's. Wuhan University cooperated in scientific research with Kiev University. Such contacts are now being resumed. During its recent trip to the Ukrainian SSR, the Hubei delegation visited machine-building plants, plants manufacturing machinery for housing construction, the musuem of great wars safeguarding the country, and a middle and primary school that have Chinese language classes.

Before returning to China, the delegation had a meeting with the leaders of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society in Moscow. The guests expressed satisfaction with the visit and enthusiastically talked about the Soviet experts who worked in Wuhan in the past, such as bridge architect (Siling). (Shen Jian), head of the delegation, and other members all praised the Soviet experts.

(Li Yunji), director of the Council of the Wuhan People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries, said: We are very pleased to meet with some experts of the same trade during our visit to Kiev, especially at the Machine Tool Industry Manufacturing Company in Kiev. I worked at the Wuhan Machine Tool Factory in the early 1980's. There were Soviet experts giving us assistance in the factory. Workers at the Wuhan Machine Tool Factory cherish deep feelings for our Soviet comrades. Now we have the opportunity to express our thanks on behalf of the workers and cadres of the Wuhan Machine Tool Factory to the Kiev Machine Tool Factory for their support in the past while we learned from them. At the factory, we were accorded a warm reception by the company manager, the secretary of party committee, the chairman of trade union, the secretary of the Komsomol committee, the broad masses of workers and staff members, and even the kindergarten children. We looked around workshops and the kindergarten. People were all very warm and friendly toward their Chinese comrades. We were deeply touched. I had a deep impression of the results achieved by the Kiev Machine Tool Industry Manufacturing Company. Its machine tools are exported to 36 countries. It plays a very important role in socialist construction in Kiev. I was particularly pleased that the comrades of the Kiev Machine Tool Industry Manufacturing Company showed great interest in the tools and [word indistinct] made by our Wuhan Machine Tool Factory. We plan to conduct exchanges in this area in the future. There have been many Soviet experts giving assistance to our work in Wuhan City. Comrade (Siling) was the chief of the team of experts helping us to build a bridge. He is an old friend widely known in Wuhan. He is a labor hero in the Soviet Union and also a labor hero in the eyes of the Wuhan people. The working class in Wuhan hopes that Comrade (Siling) will frequently visit Wuhan in the future.

Comrade (Siling) also spoke at the meeting with the Hubei delegation. He said: First, I am very grateful for your warmhearted praise. I wish to add that I have a good sense of humor. Of course, I alone do not merit all your praise. What you have just said is an appraisal of all the Soviet experts who have worked in China and also a tribute to the Soviet experts who have worked in Wuhan's iron and steel mill, machinery plant, and on the

Wuhan Chang Jiang bridge. Thank you all. We are grateful that the Chinese people still remember us. I have worked for a total of 8 years in China. I was truly amazed at the successes achieved by the Chinese people, particularly the achievements in capital construction, when I revisited China 25 years later in 1983. Taking into account the period of stagnation during the Cultural Revolution, one finds these successes particularly outstanding. I am convinced that now, 5 years later, the speed of construction in China has been further accelerated. I offer my best wishes to the Chinese people so that they can achieve even greater successes in the undertakings of socialist construction.

Comrade (Siling) asserted: Both of us have accumulated rich experiences in the past few years. We look forward to more exchanges of technical information. I would very much like to learn about your great achievements in bridge building. Getting along with Chinese comrades when I worked in China has left a wonderful impression on me. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest regards to those Chinese friends who have worked with me. All the Soviet people cherish the most friendly feelings for the Chinese people.

State of Sino-Soviet Cooperation Considered

Ties Benefit 'All Countries'

OW2609141488 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Announcer-read comment by political commentator (Roginov) on the 39th founding anniversary of the PRC]

[Text] Thirty-nine years seems a very short period in the long history of China. Yet it is in this short period that great changes have taken place in the Chinese society on the soil of ancient China.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese people have made great achievements in reforming their country via socialist ways. All the sincere friends of the Chinese people cannot but be happy that China, one of the most backward countries economically in the past, has in a very short time topped the world in the production of coal, cement, and textiles. China also is widely known for its achievements in the electronics industry, space science, and technology.

China has seen great changes in its international status. The young republic, under the assistance of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, weathered heavy embargos and blockades, by which the imperialists tried to strangle it. At present, China maintains extensive and active trade and economic ties with almost all countries on earth.

Soviet-Sino relations have great potential for all-out mutually beneficial cooperation. In recent years, the cooperation has become more and more extensive. In the past 5 years, the trade volume between the two countries has increased almost six times. Cooperation in Soviet-Sino border areas has become more and more brisk. Cultural exchanges have been expanded via the contacts among social organizations and friendship associations. There is every reason to say that the prospects for Soviet-Sino cooperation are very promising. The major factor contributing to the expanding and furthering of this process is that the Soviet Union and China are now engaged in very similar economic construction and are taking measures to speed up development of their national economies and elevate the quality of their national economies to a new high. The economic reform underway in both countries creates prerequisites for new mutually beneficial cooperation. We can expect that various joint ventures will bring greater benefits.

The concerted efforts between the two countries to exploit the hydroelectric resources of the Amur and Argun Rivers undoubtedly will prove to be of great benefit. A great volume of work has been done in this respect.

All in all, the Soviet Union and China, sharing the longest common border in the world, not only mutually care about fulfilling grandiose common programs, but also have the reasons to do so. This involves mining mineral materials and mineral ores, exploiting coastal wealth in the two countries, and solving more and more acute environmental problems.

Barter trade is a major form of trade between the Soviet Union and China. It means both sides can promote trade without using their foreign exchange reserves, based on their specific demands for commodities. For example, the Soviet Union wants to import from China raw materials, textiles, soybeans, and other foodstuffs, while 30 percent of China's imports from the Soviet Union are machinery and manufactured goods, including power plants and locomotives. China also buys from the Soviet Union timber, rolled steel, and chemical fertilizers in large quantities.

The Soviet Union and China have had rich and colorful traditions in cultural cooperation. At present, with the economic and political reform underway in both countries and active human efforts, the desire of the Soviet and Chinese people to have more exchange in order to understand each other's spiritual lives is getting a strong boost.

The Soviet Union and China, both engaged in grandiose construction, are concerned with safeguarding and consolidating peace and world security. Both countries frequently exchange views on urgent foreign policies. The regular foreign ministerial consultation between the two countries is held to serve this purpose.

Developing and strengthening Soviet-Sino cooperation not only benefits both countries' peoples, but also is in the interests of all countries and peoples. Soviet-Sino cooperation contributes to a healthy international atmosphere and helps to establish trust and good-neighborliness on the world stage.

Moving to 'All-Out Cooperation'

OW2709011488 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] One of the important directions in the Soviet Union's foreign policy is to expand and further relations with the People's Republic of China. In the process of the major reforms taking place in the two major socialist countries, the USSR and PRC have more and more in common. In this regard our station's observer Ivanov writes:

The 1980's signals that the former obstacles in Sino-Soviet relations have been overcome and the path toward all-out cooperation has been cleared. Various Soviet socialist republics, border areas, and oblasts have one by one established ties with some Chinese provinces and autonomous regions. Local trade between the two countries has become more and more brisk. The USSR and PRC have begun to establish joint ventures and jointly exploit natural resources along international rivers.

Mikhail S. Gorbachev, chairman of the CPSU Central Committee, pointed out the other day in his Krasnoyarsk speech that we might say that the people in our two countries have shown more and more good will and trust toward each other. Interest in each other has been restored and gradually acquired new dimensions, and we both want more than ever to be close to each other.

This year, as in the past, we first opened up the path for mutual understanding and cooperation. The other day, a report from Khabarovsk said that youths from the Soviet Far East and Heilongjiang Province may visit each other this year. For this purpose, the Satellite International Youth Travel Service in Khabarosvk and the Heilongjiang provincial branch of the All-China Youth Travel Service have signed a special contract. These organizations can also handle more extensive cooperation, including trade and economic cooperation, such as building youth hostels, opening photo studios and the Harbin Chinese Restaurant in Khabarovsk. Moreover, there will be a 40-person Chinese group coming to Blagoveshchensk for a 1-day visit this month. The group can be called an orientation group, as this kind of visit has never before taken place between our two countries. In the future, both sides will constantly send travel groups to each other, two groups every month from each side for a 1-day visit. What was mentioned above, of course, is just a small portion of the great potential for all-out Sino-Soviet cooperation.

Gorbachev said at Krasnoyarsk that we propose a complete normalization of relations with the PRC and want to elevate these relations in proportion with our responsibilities for the world policy.

Chinese Economist on Economic Reform

PM2709073188 Moscow TRUD in Russian 22 Sep 88 p 3

[Interview with Doctor of Economic Sciences Gao Tiesheng, staffer at the Chinese State Prices Administration, by own correspondent A. Sukhotin in Beijing: "State and Market. Chinese Economist on Price Reform in PRC"; date not given—first paragraph is TRUD introduction]

[Text] Beijing, Sep—"The state regulates the market, the market orients enterprises." This formula for economic reform is again at the center of Chinese press attention in connection with the forthcoming price reform. Our correspondent in Beijing talked with Doctor of Economic Sciences Gao Tiesheng, staffer at the Chinese State Prices Administration.

[Sukhotin] The reform envisages expanding the range of goods subject to market regulation. Can you indicate which goods will retain "fixed" prices—that is, prices set by the state—and which will have market prices?

[Gao] On the whole, the sphere of direct state control should extend to a small list of goods and services. These include strategic products such as basic raw materials, energy resources, and some exports, for instance. This also applies to transportation and goods directly linked with people's living standards. There are monopolies on many of these goods and services. A very great deal, including social stability, depends on their being priced correctly.

Take air travel, gas, and electricity, for instance. State control of them should be maintained during the price reform. Or take timber. Compared with the Soviet Union we have very little and demand for it is high. If market prices were introduced in this area, they would be many times higher than current prices. There should also be definite stability with regard to medicines, mineral fertilizers, and agricultural equipment.

[Sukhotin] What proportion of prices will be determined by the state, and will not the reduction of this proportion lead, in your view, to an intensification of price growth?

[Gao] That is a serious question. No figures have been established here yet. Everything depends on specific sectors. With regard to means of production, the level of prices set by the state may amount to 30 percent or more. With regard to agriculture and consumer goods the figure will be less than 20 percent. Certain Chinese economists think that a figure of 20 percent for the whole economy, to be achieved in the course of 5-6 years, could be the optimum level for "fixed" prices, given favorable circumstances. If we also take account of prices recommended by the state, approximately half of all goods and services will fall within the sphere of direct state control.

Admittedly, not everything is going smoothly with regard to recommended prices. Local authorities and enterprises, on the basis of their own interests, often exceed the fixed state level.

Expansion of the range of market prices may, of course, initially promote their growth. However, as the goods economy expands and the market becomes saturated, prices may fall. The market is a good mechanism able to effectively direct enterprises' work. Furthermore, what is the point of people having money but no goods? We, like you, have for too long pursued a policy of low prices and we have built up definite experience in this area. If items are of good quality and low price they are hard to obtain. The market, by regulating prices, will help us to avoid both rampant consumerism and shortages. And the state has ample opportunities for controlling the market itself.

[Sukhotin] What measures are you planning to use to implement these controls?

[Gao] They may be economic, administrative, or legal. Economic measures may include, in particular, controls on interest rates, the tax system, and so forth. Administrative measures include the reduction of the scale of capital construction. Legal measures envisage a range of laws. For instance, an antimonopolies law is currently at the examination stage, and laws are being drafted on fair competition and against excessive profits. These laws should play their part in restricting enterprise monopolies on the production of articles and the establishment of prices, and should promote the development of socialist competition.

[Sukhotin] What is your opinion of the possibility of enterprises going bankrupt as a result of price reform?

[Gao] This is a very serious problem for China, since it is linked with the provision of employment for the population. Nevertheless, loss-making enterprises should be closed down and their personnel transferred to new work. Inefficient or unprofitable production facilities should be swallowed up by stronger competitors and come under their management. But we must not permit a high level of unemployment.

[Sukhotin] You are a board member of the Chinese Society for the Study of the World Economy. What could you say on the basis of your observations of the economic reforms in the USSR?

[Gao] Soviet economists have amassed considerable experience in resolving price formation problems. They can also take some of our results into consideration in their work. This applies, for instance, to the system of dual pricing—for planned and above-plan production. Initially this system was effective in our country, but then it stopped being justifiable and brought about shortages and abuses. I would like to note that the experience of Soviet comrades is of interest to us; we are holding scientific seminars on the problems of the Soviet economy and price formation.

Problems of PRC Agriculture Viewed

PM2609123588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[Special correspondent V. Ovchinnikov article: "China: The Countryside in Difficulties"]

[Text] Beijing-Moscow—Dongshuangtang Municipality is perhaps remarkable for the sole reason that the Great Canal of China runs through it. Back in the past this ancient waterway was used to deliver grain to the imperial court. This part of the North China Plain cannot be described as a backwater. It is only a short distance from the Yellow Sea coast and major cities like Tianjin and Beijing. The decade of reforms has left most noticeable traces in the rural districts of the maritime strip.

Dongshuangtang Municipality comprises 10 villages, 11,000 inhabitants (including 4,000 able-bodied) and 2,200 hectares of land. The area of 0.2 hectares per capita is more than the average in China (people in the south usually manage with one-half of this). Comrade Liu Jiahai, secretary of the municipality party committee, drove me around fields and settlements. The separation of party and state organs' functions has not yet been effected at municipality level. The 13th CPC Congress decision on this issue has been implemented at provincial level, and is due for implementation at county level next. For the time being, the municipality committee secretary is still responsible for everything and everybody. For the party organization (there are 400 Communists in Dongshuangtang), for the municipality's economy, and for its social development. Only two of the seven municipality party committee members are full-time officials—the secretary and his deputy who, by tradition, is the head of the municipality administration.

What has changed in Dongshuangtang Municipality during the decade of reforms? The transition to family contracts not only stimulated crop farming productivity but also made farming multisectoral. Peasants were formerly forced to sow virtually all the land to grain crops, but harvest yields were low. Now one-half of the fields are allocated to crops which produce higher earnings—oil-yielding crops, vegetables, and fruit. Even so, grain harvest yields have increased. Year in and year out the municipality produces 500 kg per capita and, in addition, supplies Tianjin with 3,000 pigs at state purchasing prices.

But perhaps the most remarkable change in the last few years has been the headlong development of local industry. It now employs 60 percent of the workforce (35 percent of workers are still employed in crop farming and stock raising and 5 percent in trade). Dongshuangtang has over 50 enterprises which process agricultural produce, fill export orders, and produce labor-intensive

components for urban plants. We visited a shop where the famous Hebei pickles were packed in plastic packaging. This cabbage, pickled with special spices and then dry-cured, is in great demand in Southeast Asia, where there are many Chinese living. And the sewn goods shop looked altogether like an urban one. Girls along several flow lines with 25 electric sewing machines in each were sewing summer pants from Chinese material to fill an order from a firm from the Netherlands.

"Family contracts helped us find an application for surplus manpower. As a result, the population's annual per capita income in the municipality increased from 165 to 804 yuans," Comrade Liu Jiahai told me. "As you can see, there are almost no more clay huts left. Nine-tenths of families have built themselves brick houses under tiled roofs. Almost every yard has enough grain stock for 3 years. Some have acquired washing machines and are now saving for television sets and motorcycles. But we are worried because the growth of prosperity is not accompanied by a growth in marketable output. The family contract system seems to have reached its limits...."

Puloucun village is a gratifying exception, with 22 homesteads having signed collective contracts to take over land parcels belonging to their neighbors who are employed in local industry enterprises and subsidiary operations. They decided to cultivate these fields together with their own. And since wheat alone is unlikely to make anybody especially rich, they started growing watermelons, planted fruit trees on non-arable land, and built a pig farm and a poultry farm. Puloucun is now ahead of neighboring villages in terms of marketable output production. It is with Puloucun that the state signs contracts for the largest share of grain, pork, and eggs, selling in exchange fertilizers, mixed feeds, and fuel at fixed prices. It is the members of the collective contract group who are the most frequent visitors to the agrotechnical information station which has been set up in the municipality. In other words, another case of cooperative activity. But this time it originated "from below" rather than "from above."

The Chinese Communists began their economic reforms with agriculture. The switch to family contracts produced a stormy outburst of labor activeness by the peasantry. And since peasants account for more than 80 percent of China's population, this had an effect on the national economy as a whole and led it out of stagnation. Over a period of 6 years (1979-1984), China's annual grain harvest increased from 300 to 400 million tonnes. This surge was historically significant. For many centuries China could not manage to produce more than 300 kg of grain per capita. Raising this indicator to 400 kg meant being able to feed the people for the first time.

Local industry's growth rate started being expressed in two figures, at times even exceeding 40 percent per annum. The gross indicator of industry, transportation, and trade in the countryside recently exceeded for the first time the gross volume of agricultural production. Settlement enterprises now produce 20 percent of the country's industrial output and 14 percent of its exports. Rural working people's hands produce more than one-half of its construction materials, one-third of its clothing and footwear, and one-fifth of its textiles.

During the decade of reforms, peasants' incomes rose substantially, especially for those living close to large cities and the sea coast. The number of poor people—those with an annual income of less than 200 yuans, in other words $55—has fallen to 15 percent of the rural population. (Two-thirds of these 120 million persons are still illiterate or semiliterate.) The task was set of ending poverty by the year 2000 by raising grain harvests to 500 million tonnes.

But this second leap of a further 100 million has been proving much more difficult to achieve than the first. Following 6 years of rapid growth in grain harvests, people in China have marked time for the 4th year running. And the population, despite the energetic measures to curb the birth rate, is growing faster than planned. Judging by everything, population numbers will not be contained within the 1.2 billion limit by the end of the century. This means that, even if harvest yields reached 500 million tonnes, the present level (400 kg of grain per capita) will not be maintained.

Furthermore, the situation I encountered in Dongshuangtang Municipality seems to have become a generally applicable law. Labor activeness declines noticeably wherever rural residents' annual income exceeds 800 yuans per capita. Instead of spending money on production needs or the enhancement of soil fertility, peasants have started building new homes, at times on arable land.

Housing area in China's villages is now 17 square meters per capita against 5 square meters in the cities. Last year peasants invested in home building four times the amount of funds invested in the expansion of production. Any surplus money is used to acquire electrical domestic appliances or to organize expensive weddings and funerals. The unwillingness to gain the reputation of being wealthy, and maybe even the fear that the current economic policy might change, drives many peasants to "eat up" their savings. This in its turn applies the brakes on the development of commodity production.

There are other reasons for the decline of labor activeness. One of them is the low profitability of grain farming. The increase in state purchasing prices for rice and wheat has been wiped off by price increases for fertilizers, chemical weed and pest killers, hothouse film, and other industrial products needed by crop farmers. Peasants have been quick to react and have switched to more profitable production, especially since free market prices for vegetables, eggs, and pork are rising faster than grain prices.

The Chinese press notes that the country has failed to make prompt and correct use of the law of value to orient agricultural production. For example, feeds became cheaper and meat was plentiful in urban markets following the record harvest in 1984. The state immediately withdrew the allowances for peasants rearing pigs for sale. In subsequent years, however, feed prices increased again and pig numbers sharply declined. Consequently, meat coupons (allowing 1 kg of meat per worker per month) had to be reintroduced in major cities, as well as rationing of eggs and sugar. Disruptions in supplies are accompanied by higher market prices.

The transition to family contracts produced a swift effect primarily through the intensification of manual labor. The growth of peasants' material interest revealed reserves lying close to the surface, and they are largely exhausted by now. Life has shown that the possibilities of small-scale commodity production based on family contracts are by no means unlimited. In order to achieve a new leap, the Chinese countryside needs additional levers, primarily advanced agrotechnology. This, in turn, demands rational land usage because the piecemeal family plots make it difficult to implement mechanization or introduce the achievements of science. According to State Council Premier Li Peng, the transition from traditional to modern forms of agriculture and the emergence of farms of a sensible size is an inevitable trend in the development of the Chinese countryside.

It has been decided to encourage the peasants' spontaneous pull toward joint work. China now has about 500,000 cooperative associations of various types. What seems to be a two-tier system of economic management—a combination of family and collective contracts—is becoming increasingly widespread. A family does by itself everything that is within its capacity. But the building of irrigation facilities, the acquisition and use of tractors and water pumps, the introduction of high-yield crop varieties, and the effective struggle against agricultural pests—all these are more easily and more profitably done jointly.

The second avenue is to enlarge the scale of land usage thanks to the switch by some peasants to nonagricultural production. The workforce in China's countryside numbers 390 million. Some 90 million of them have already switched to local industry and subsidiary operations. It is assumed that their numbers will continue to swell at the rate of 7 million each year.

How to create more favorable conditions for the development of mechanization and the introduction of scientific achievements in China's agriculture? This crucial question is still the topic of arguments. It is hard to say which avenue will be adjudged the best: the revival of production cooperatives on a strictly voluntary basis, the emergence of highly productive farming units, or the combination of family and collective contracts.

Every one of my conversations with Chinese interlocutors turned to a comparison of their reforms with our restructuring. The interest was mutual. In my view, there are things we can learn from the Chinese as regards the economic aspects of the renewal of socialism—their boldness, their skill in moving from one specific frontier to another. As far as the political sphere is concerned, according to my Chinese interlocutors, restructuring in the USSR is more radical in terms of the improvement of the social atmosphere. There can be no argument that each other's experience is especially valuable for us now, be it positive or negative, because the path to the set goals will not be easy for either people. After all, even China's agriculture—where the policy of reforms scored its first and most remarkable successes—is, as we can see, having difficulties.

Briefs

Joint PRC Construction Project

A joint Soviet-Chinese construction project has begun in the Maritime Kray. Workers and engineers of the two countries are erecting an enterprise for the production of construction materials. It will begin to give output approximately in 5 months. There are currently about 100 joint enterprises registered in this country with foreign firms and organizations. [Text] [*LD2709004188 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2230 GMT 26 Sep 88*]

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Lao Prime Minister Phomvihan Meets With Ryzhkov

PM2709112988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Sep 88 Second Edition pp 1,4

[TASS report: "Soviet-Lao Talks"]

[Text] On 26 September Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and chairman of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] Council of Ministers, arrived in Moscow on a working visit.

He was greeted at the airport by V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; V.A. Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; V.K. Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and other officials.

The state flags of the LPDR and the USSR were flying at the airport.

On 26 September talks were held in the Kremlin between N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and K. Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, who is on a working visit to the Soviet Union.

During the talks N.I. Ryzhkov briefed K. Phomvihan on the practical work under way in the USSR to fulfill the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference relating to the reform of the political system, improvement of economic management, and democratization of all aspects of the life of Soviet society and on the activity of the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet Government to implement the policy of restructuring at its present stage.

K. Phomvihan talked about Lao working people's achievements in building a new life in Laos, the implementation of the course of restructuring the economic management mechanism elaborated by the fourth party congress and concretized at subsequent LPRP Central Committee plenums, and the expansion of the democratic foundations of Lao society.

N.I. Ryzhkov and K. Phomvihan exchanged opinions on the state of Soviet-Lao relations and on the development of cooperation between the USSR and Laos in various spheres.

Much attention was devoted to questions of improving the effectiveness of economic ties and eliminating the causes of their inhibited development. The mutual desire to step up work on introducing new forms of cooperation corresponding to the specific features and potential of the two countries' national economies was confirmed.

It was deemed advisable to elaborate a range of measures to intensify collaboration between the sides' economic organizations in all spheres of cooperation, including on the basis of direct links and the creation of joint enterprises.

During the talks there was an exchange of opinions on topical issues of the international situation, the situation in the Asian-Pacific region, and the state of and prospects for the settlement of conflict areas in Southeast Asia, including Cambodia.

The Soviet side confirmed its invariable solidarity with the Indochinese countries' enterprising steps and their constructive efforts to ease the tension that exists in Southeast Asia and voiced full support for the LPDR proposals on turning the region into a zone of peace and cooperation free from nuclear weapons.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of comradely mutual understanding and in the spirit of fraternal friendship.

Taking part in the conversation on the Soviet side were V.K. Gusev and V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; K.F. Katushev, USSR minister of foreign economic relations; and Yu.Ya. Mikheyev, USSR ambassador to Laos; and, on the Lao side: Oudom Khatti-gna, Politburo candidate member and secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, and K. Phanvongsa, LPDR ambassador to the USSR.

Further Reportage on Visit by Vo Chi Cong

Arrives in Kiev 21 Sep

AU2609150488 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 22 Sep 88 p 1

[RATAU report: "A Visitor to the Soviet Ukraine"]

[Text] While on an official friendly visit to our country at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Vo Chi Cong, CPV Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the SRV State Council, arrived in Kiev on 21 September.

In Borispol Airport, with the state flags of the SRV, the USSR, and the Ukrainian SSR flying, the visitor was welcomed by V.S. Shevchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman; N.G. Khomenko, Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium secretary; V.P. Osnach, chairman of the Presidium of the Ukrainian Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; N.V. Lavrukhin, Kiev Gorispolkom first deputy chairman; A.M. Zlenko, Ukrainian SSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; and other officials. The welcoming party included Vietnamese students training here at Kiev higher educational institutions.

G.P. Pallayev, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy chairman, accompanying the visitor on his USSR tour, and D.I. Kachin, USSR ambassador to the SRV, also arrived in Kiev.

The party accompanying Vo Chi Cong included: Hoang Bich Son, Foreign Relations Department chief in the CPV Central Committee; Nguyen Viet Dung, SRV State Council general secretary; Nguyen Manh Kam, SRV ambassador to the USSR; Nguyen Di Nien, SRV vice minister of foreign affairs; Dinh Van Nguyen, assistant to the SRV State Council chairman; Nguyen Van Khanh, USSR Department chief in the SRV Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Bui Khak But [name as transliterated] and Vu Xuan Ninh, USSR Department experts in the SRV Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and other officials.

The state flags of the SRV, the USSR, and the Ukrainian SSR were flying and welcome posters in Vietnamese, Russian, and Ukrainian were displayed in the streets along the route of the motorcade escorted by motorcyclists.

On the same day Vo Chi Cong laid a wreath at the Grave of the Unknown Soldier in the Park of Eternal Glory. During the wreath laying ceremony, a guard of honor was mounted and the state anthems of the SRV, the USSR, and the Ukrainian SSR were played. With a minute of silence, the visitor paid homage to the memory of Soviet soldiers who offered their lives for homeland's honor and independence.

Meets Ukraine's Leaders

AU2709093888 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 22 Sep 88 p 1

[RATAU report: "A Meeting in the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] On 21 September Vo Chi Cong, CPV Central Committee Politburo member and SRV State Council chairman, visited the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium. The high-ranking guest was welcomed by V.S. Shevchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman. During a warm and friendly conversation, Vo Chi Cong was briefed on the history of the Ukraine, its state system, the achievements of the Ukrainian SSR working people in implementing the decisions of the 27th congress and the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference, and on the progress made in restructuring the republic's political system, including the activity of the supreme body of state power. It was emphasized that the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet and its permanent commissions put ever stronger emphasis on the further development of democratic principles in their work, on enhancing the atmosphere of openness and glasnost, on involving wide circles of the population in the discussion of the republic's vital problems, and on constantly taking public opinion into account.

In tackling the international relations of the Ukrainian SSR, V.S. Shevchenko noted positive results in establishing Soviet-Vietnamese economic cooperation which includes the active participation of the Ukraine's labor collectives and organizations. At the same time, it was noted that the reserves existing in this sphere have not been fully exhausted.

Vo Chi Cong gave an account of the practical steps taken to comply with the directives of the Sixth CPV Congress which outlined a profound renewal in all spheres of public life, and to overcome the difficulties that have arisen on this path. He emphasized that the Vietnamese people highly valued the ties of solidarity, watched with great interest the processes presently taking place in the USSR, and wished the Soviet people success in accomplishing the tasks set in the course of restructuring. The State Council chairman pointed out that the realization of the large-scale initiatives set forth in M.S. Gorbachev's Krasnoyarsk speech would amount to more security throughout Asia and to the relaxation of tensions in the Asia-Pacific region and all over the world.

The Vietnamese party member and statesman highly assessed the meetings and talks held in Moscow. The meeting with M.S. Gorbachev, he said, will be of great importance for further deepening Soviet-Vietnamese relations in all fields.

Participating in the conversation were G.P. Pallayev, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy chairman, who is accompanying the visitor on the trip to the Ukraine; D.I. Kachin, USSR ambassador to the SRV; N.G. Khomenko, Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium secretary; V.D. Parkhomenko, V.P. Osnach, N.V. Lavrukhin, and V.P. Popov, Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet deputies; A.M. Zlenko, Ukrainian SSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; and other officials.

Visits War Museum

LD2309150188 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Comrade Vo Chi Cong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV State Council, is in Kiev for the 2d day.

During these days of September, the Ukrainian capital is marking the 45th anniversary of the Battle for the Dnieper in the years of the Great Patriotic War. Comrade Vo Chi Cong visited the museum complex erected at the former Lyutovskiy beachhead near Kiev, the location of the command post of the 1st Ukrainian Front that was commanded by General Vatutin. The distinguished Vietnamese guest also viewed a diorama capturing the memorable heroic events of that time. [video shows Vo Chi Cong at memorial complex attending wreath-laying and viewing Vatutin bust and diorama]

In the same Uzhgorodskiy Rayon Comrade Vo Chi Cong visited the Vatutin Sovkhoz, where the management is on a cooperative basis. [video shows Vo Chi Cong touring farm]

Then the guest from Vietnam acquainted himself with the work of the Darnitsa silk combine in Kiev. [video shows display of fabrics and textile workshop interior] He took part in a Soviet-Vietnamese friendship meeting, which was held at the enterprise.

Tours Scientific Complex

PM2709094188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On Ukrainian Soil"]

[Text] Kiev, 23 Sep—Vo Chi Cong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV State Council, today visited the "Ukrainian State Museum of the History of the Great Patriotic War 1941-1945" memorial complex.

In the afternoon he visited the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences' "Ye.O. Paton Institute of Arc Welding" intersector scientific and technical complex. There was a conversation during which Academician B.Ye. Paton, president of the republic's Academy of Sciences and director of the arc welding institute, acquainted the guest with the activity of the intersector scientific and technical complex in the creation of new technologies, equipment, and materials in the welding sphere, specialized electrometallurgy, and insulation. The institute maintains fruitful ties with the Hanoi technological institute, the Vietnam institute of materials technology, and other scientific centers in the fraternal country within the framework of the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000.

Vo Chi Cong rated the institute's activity highly and emphasized the importance of expanding and deepening scientific and technical ties, which are required to play a decisive role in resolving problems of accelerating the introduction of scientific achievements in production.

On the same day the chairman of the SRV State Council went for a boat trip along the Dnepr.

A dinner was given in Vo Chi Cong's honor on behalf of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Leaves for Home 24 Sep

LD2409174288 Moscow TASS in English 1639 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Kiev September 24 TASS—Vo Chi Cong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, president of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, left the capital of the Soviet Ukraine for home today.

He has stayed in the Soviet Union on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Vietnamese leader expressed deep satisfaction with the results of his visit to the Soviet Union. "The conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the talks with Andrey Gromyko, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and meetings in the Ukraine are of great importance and give a new impulse to further strengthening of fraternal friendship and all-round Vietnamese-Soviet cooperation at the present stage," Vo Chi Cong told journalists before departure.

Sihanouk: Inter-Cambodian Meeting Set for 5 Nov

PM2709085588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Sep 88 First Edition p3

[TASS report: "Meeting in Paris"]

[Text] Paris, 24 Sep—France supports the idea of holding an international conference on Cambodia in Paris. This was announced here by Prince Norodom Sihanouk after his meeting with President F. Mitterrand. According to him, the French head of state has invited all interested parties to take part in the conference. At the same time, the president has emphasized that it is essential to "carefully prepare the ground" for such a conference and that France intends to hold consultations with the governments of a number of countries for this purpose.

Sihanouk also announced his forthcoming 5 November meeting in the French capital with Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, and stressed that he has invited two leaders of the Khmer opposition, Khieu Samphan and Son Sann, to take part in these talks, the third of their kind to date.

Eliminating Pol Pot 'Menace' in Cambodia

OW2709093188 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0300 GMT 25 Sep 88

[Announcer-read commmentary by station observer Alekseyev]

[Text] Over the past few months, all parties have sought ways to mediate in the situation in Cambodia. This has continuously attracted the attention of all news agencies in Asia. The press and radio and television broadcasts have all noted that the crucial thing for all parties in Cambodia in terms of mediation is to reach a consensus of great significance—to reliably guard against the restoration of the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia.

Our station observer Alekseyev writes: The Pol Pot regime ruled Cambodia from April 1975 to January 1976. The two chieftains of the regime, Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, were sentenced in absentia to death by the Revolutionary Court in Phonm Penh in August 1979. The indictment by the court stated: The Pol Pot and Ieng Sary clique pushed a genocidal policy against their own people very barbarously and cruelly. More than 3 million people were murdered by the Pol Pot clique. Pol Pot and his accomplices have not concealed their ultimate goal in the past and at present, which is to use force to seize Cambodia's political power.

Of course, the Cambodian people cannot permit such an attempt, which has been condemned by the world community, to prevail. Cambodia has adequate military power. Cambodian leaders have repeatedly pointed out that Cambodia has full confidence [words indistinct] its armed forces can independently eliminate the menace posed by the Pol Pot elements. However, as far as fundamentally solving the question of guarding against the genocidal regime is concerned, are Cambodia's Armed Forces enough? It is not incidental that I mention this issue, because the Cambodia issue can never be really solved unless peace is restored in Cambodia. If the Cambodian Army is forced to counterattack the Pol Pot clique's provocation on the battlefield, peace will be out of the question.

Phnom Penh holds that something should be done to make it impossible for the Pol Pot clique to launch military activities. In an interview with the USSR's NOVOYE VREMYA, Hun Sen, chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers, said: We persist in calling for disbanding the Khmer Rouge army.

RSFSR Group Ends Visit to Philippines

LD2609202988 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1520 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Manila, 26 Sep (TASS)—TASS correspondent Sergey Almazov reports:

The visit of the first delegation of economic experts of the RSFSR to the Philippines has ended. Meetings took place with the heads of the Department of Trade and Industry, the State Corporation for International Trade, and representatives of companies and firms who are interested in developing links with the Soviet Union.

The main objective of our visit was achieved, stated YE. B. Shkurenkov, chief of the Foreign Relations Directorate of the RSFSR State Planning Committee, the head of the Soviet delegation. We established friendly relations with Filipino industrial circles and studied the possibility of concluding contracts in the field of trade, capital investments, industrial cooperation and setting up joint enterprises. The next step is up to the specialists who will be working out the projects which have been proposed.

I first visited the USSR in 1967, Victor Lim [name as received], president of the Filipino Chambers of Trade and Industry, told a TASS correspondent. Now much has changed. And we in the Filipino business circles now look at your country in a different way. We are in favor of developing commercial relations with all states, he pointed out, and it seems to me that there are good prospects here with the Soviet Union.

Near East & South Asia

Defense Minister's Departure for India Reported

PM2609115988 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Sep 88 First Edition p1

[Unattributed report: "On an Official Visit"]

[Text] Army General D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, left Moscow on 24 September for an official visit to Delhi.

He was accompanied to Vnukovo Airport by N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces and USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces; Army General P.G. Lushev, USSR first deputy defense minister; Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy; and other officials.

The following left with the USSR defense minister: Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, commander in chief of the USSR Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister; Fleet Admiral V.N. Chernavin, commander in chief of the USSR Navy and USSR deputy defense minister; Army General V.M. Shabanov, USSR deputy defense minister; and other officials.

Among those present was P.K. Budkhvar [name as published], minister plenipotentiary with ambassadorial rank, at the Indian Embassy in the Soviet Union.

Indian President Greets Gromyko From Aircraft

PM2709090588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "From the Aircraft"]

[Text] From his aircraft President R. Venkataraman of India sent a telegram to A.A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which reads: "Flying over USSR territory on my way back to India, it gives me special pleasure to convey to you once again friendly greetings on behalf of the Indian Government and people and on my own account and to sincerely wish the Soviet Union prosperity and further flourishing."

Najibullah Praises Soviet, Afghan Cosmonauts

LD2609211688 Moscow TASS in English 2103 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul September 26 TASS—The Afghan capital had a solemn and holiday-like look today. The walls of the buildings carried posters and transparencies glorifying Soviet-Afghan friendship, as well as portraits of the first Afghan cosmonaut Mohmand 'Abdullah Ahad and the Soyuz TM-6 crew commander Vladimir Lyakhov.

The news about the cosmonauts' arrival in Kabul spread quickly and jubilant crowds headed for Kabul airport in early morning. The space heroes had arrived in Kabul accompanied by members of the back-up crew. The motorcade struggled its way through a thick corridor of jubilant Afghans.

After a short rest the cosmonauts attended a ceremony at the Delkusha Palace where they were awarded state rewards.

"We have gathered in this hall for a solemn and happy occasion," Afghan President Najibullah said at the ceremony.

"The Soviet-Afghan space flight opens new horizons for cooperation between our peoples. Our traditional friendship has risen to a really space height: Hand in hand with the great Soviet people we are moving along the path of internationalism and fraternal solidarity towards peace and progress."

Najibullah pointed out that the flight would hold a prominent place in Afghanistan's history. It took place in the year of the triumph of the national reconciliation policy, when the efforts of the Afghan patriots, the Soviet Union and the international public started to untie the tight knot of the critical regional conflict around Afghanistan.

"Together with the Soviet Union we are strictly complying with the Geneva accords. At the same time, their violations by Pakistan and the United States are prolonging the suffering of the Afghan people and lead to new casualties. During our space conversation with Comrade Ahad he said he could see no obstacles to reconciliation from the near-earth orbit. Let these lofty words become a reality on earth," Najibullah said.

Mohmand 'Abdulllah Ahad, Vladimir Lyakahov and Valeriy Polyakov were awarded the titles of Heroes of the Republic of Afghanistan for the successful implementation of their space mission and courage and heroism displayed during the flight. All the three were presented with the Orders of the Sun of Freedom and Gold Stars.

The Orders of the Sun of Freedom were conferred on the back-up crew, comprising Muhammad Dauran Ghulam Masum, Anatoliy Berezovoy and German Arzamasov, for their active participation in preparing and ensuring the space flight.

Soviet cosmonauts Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov, remaining on board the orbital station Mir, were awarded the Orders of the Sun of Freedom.

The presentation ceremony was followed by a meeting with the Afghan people at the Kabul Polytechnic Institute training highly-skilled personnel for Afghanistan.

A state reception devoted to the joint Soviet-Afghan space flight was given in honour of the guests in the evening. Speaking at the reception President Najibullah said: "Recently there has been a lot of talk doubting the need of space research to Afghanistan torn with bloodshed. Our answer to this question is that no matter how hard and sad the situation is now, we are thinking about the future of our people and we are confidently looking ahead in joy and in sorrow. The dream of prospering Afghanistan is inspiring us and multiplies our strength."

At the end of his speech President Najibullah expressed gratitude to the space heroes and proposed a toast to the unbreakable Soviet-Afghan friendship.

Afghan Foreign Minister Stops Over in Moscow

PM2709105188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Stopover in Moscow"]

[Text] Afghan Foreign Minister 'A. Wakil stopped over in Moscow 24-25 September on his way from Kabul to New York to take part in the work of the 43d UN General Assembly session.

Vavilov on Pakistani 'Lie' About Downed Plane

LD2609211288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1356 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow, 26 Sep (TASS)—TASS observer Valeriy Vavilov writes:

A lie repeated several times does not cease to be a lie. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan told a press conference in Islamabad that "Pakistan has already shot down three Afghan planes and will repeat its actions if the violations continue."

Has the president of the country also become a victim of the disinformers? Because inventions about raids by Afghan aviation on peaceful little villages deep inside Pakistani territory are appearing in the Western media so regularly that one comes to think involuntarily that there is a deliberate, preplanned disinformation campaign. The Pakistani newspapers, the Voice of America, and certain Western news agencies have become involved in it, citing "reliable sources."

But not a single bit of evidence of bombing has been substantiated —all the reports are based merely on unsubstantiated assertions, and Islamabad is urgently attempting to get "proof." The groups of the armed Afghan opposition operating in the territory of Afghanistan have, as has already been reported, been told to seek out and immediately send to Pakistan wreckage from Afghan aircraft shot down in Afghan skies. Such instructions were received in particular, as the press testifies, by Muhammad Hashem, commander of a formation within the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" in Qandahar Province. A very large reward has been promised for the fulfillment of this task.

Obviously Islamabad does not intend to be stingy here—it has to save face and present "proof" of the bombings even if this means having to embark on blatant forgery.

It would appear that there is nothing simpler than confirming the fact of bombings, as well as Afghan planes that have been shot down. But it is impossible to do this when there are and have been no facts. It is this that explains the stubborn unwillingness of the Pakistani authorities to allow representatives of the UN observers

to the scene of action. The Pakistan side is also stubbornly refusing to set up an international commission of enquiry with all four states that signed the Geneva agreements taking part, as the Soviet Union and Afghanistan are proposing.

It would seem that such an objective investigation is not in the interests of certain circles in Islamabad and Washington. They are stubbornly whipping up a smear campaign and on the sly they themselves are grossly violating the Geneva agreements [words indistinct] violations by Pakistani combat planes of the Republic of Afghanistan's airspace, and the ever intensifying support for the Afghan armed opposition, right up to servicemen of Pakistan's armed forces taking part in military action.

Isn't it time to stop acting in such unseemly and, to put it mildly, short-term interests and finally to start strictly observing the spirit and letter of Geneva, for the consequences of the continuing violations may prove to be unpredictable.

CPSU Delegation Concludes Visit to Syria

PM2709090988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Departure for Home"]

[Text] Damascus, 23 Sep—The delegation of CPSU party workers headed by S.A. Osminin, first secretary of Kirov CPSU Obkom, which has been visiting Syria in accordance with the plan for party ties between the CPSU and the Ba'th Party, has ended.

The delegation members were received by 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, deputy general secretary of the Ba'th Party, and Fayiz al-Nasir, member of the Ba'th Party regional leadership and chief of the Ba'th Party Organizational Department. There were meetings with the leadership of the General Federation of Trade Unions and the Union of Revolutionary Youth of Syria, leaders of party organizations in Damascus and Aleppo, and professors and teachers at Damascus and Aleppo universities. The CPSU party workers' delegation familiarized itself with the results of the friendly Syrian people's creative labor and the Ba'th Party's activity in trade union and social organizations.

During the Soviet delegation's stay in Syria, Ba'th Party leaders and representatives of the Syrian public showed great interest in the results of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and the large-scale program of transformations elaborated there.

The delegation left for home today.

The CPSU party workers' delegation headed by S.A. Osminin, first secretary of Kirov CPSU Obkom, left Damascus for Moscow 23 September.

The delegation had been visiting Syria in accordance with the plan for ties between the CPSU and the Ba'th Party.

Algerian Warships To Visit Odessa 27-30 Sep

PM2609120988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
24 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Visit by Algerian Ships"]

[Text] In accordance with an agreement reached earlier, a detachment of Algerian warships consisting of the frigate "Rais Korso" and the landing ship "Kalaat Beni Hammad" will pay an official friendly visit to Odessa 27-30 September.

Muslim Leader on Visit to Libyan Conference

PM2709084788 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
24 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 5

["IZVESTIYA Interview" with Sadykzhan Kamalov, qadi of Kirghizia's Muslims, by correspondent G. Charodeyev: "Sadykzhan Kamalov: 'Love for the Motherland Is Part of Our Faith'"; place and date not given—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] A world meeting of graduates of the Libyan University's "Islamic Appeal" Faculty was held in Tripoli and was attended by more than 300 people from 30 countries. Most of them are eminent religious and public figures from the Islamic world. A delegation of Soviet Muslims headed by Sadykzhan Kamalov, qadi of Kirghizia's Muslims, was among the university graduates. He shared his impressions of the trip with an IZVESTIYA correspondent.

[Kamalov] It was an opportunity to meet old friends and discuss the problems of contemporary Islam. We spoke about restructuring and explained the meaning of glasnost and its importance for Soviet people. We had to literally struggle against obsolete stereotypes. After all, Western propaganda continues to distort facts about the position of Muslims in the USSR. A reputable news agency can send a correspondent to Central Asia at any time but, as a rule, the journalist knows in advance what he is going to write. He travels in the hope of uncovering some controversial facts confirming his negative views. On their return, many write that, having seen reality for themselves, they have concluded that Islam in the USSR is finished, there are no Muslims there, and the mosques have been destroyed. This lie is disseminated by newspapers in Muslim countries for one single purpose—to discredit the Soviet Union. It is to be profoundly regretted that people often believe it. All this is aimed at discriminating against the spirit of the Holy Koran.

I recently read in a newspaper that a network of underground organizations supposedly exists in the Soviet Union and that they are arming themselves for the purpose of proclaiming a holy war against the state.... What comes to mind are the Prophet's words that love

for the motherland is part of the faith. I had to explain that Islam is openly professed in the USSR, that we have mosques, and that new ones are being built.

[Charodeyev] Sadykzhan, was the problem of the Afghan settlement touched upon in conversations with major religious figures?

[Kamalov] Muhammad Ahmad Sharif, general secretary of the "Islamic Appeal" Society, for example, highly appraised the Soviet Union's decision to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan. He said that the Afghan problem prevented Muslims from establishing good relations among themselves. Afghanistan is a Muslim country. Now the faithful can have their say in order to accelerate the process of broad national reconciliation there. He also expressed hope that the agreements reached in Geneva will not be broken.

I had a very interesting conversation with Doctor 'Abd al-Razzaq Iskandar, chief of the Teaching Department of the Islamic University in Karachi, Pakistan. An eminent figure in the contemporary Muslim world, he enjoys high prestige among the faithful and is a member of the World Council of Islamic Appeal.

My questions about the position of Soviet prisoners of war in Afghanistan came as no surprise for 'Abd al-Razzaq. I said bluntly: The majority of Soviet prisoners of war are on Pakistani territory. My interlocutor did not contradict me. Moreover, he added that he had had several meetings with leaders of the Afghan antigovernment opposition. He got the impression that a large number of captives are on Afghan territory. Mujahidin leaders told him that they are used for various heavy construction operations.

Be that as it may, in the course of numerous conversations we felt the Muslim leaders' concern for the fate of captured Soviet soldiers. I want to stress that we will continue to take advantage of our international meetings to help Soviet people in distress to return home more quickly.

Gulf Conflict Origins, Prospects Viewed

PM2309142588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 5

[B. Aleksandrov article under the rubric "Iran and Iraq BetweenWar and Peace": "You Can Hear the Birds Singing"]

[Text] Tankers and oil platforms ablaze, the ruins of residential buildings and schools destroyed by missiles, U.S. ships preparing to do battle—for 8 years pictures like these have flashed across television screens when the subject has been the Persian Gulf. But now, for the first time in all these years, the guns and machineguns on the Iran-Iraq front have fallen silent and people have suddenly realized that they can hear the birds singing.

It is a pity that no television cameramen were there on 20 August. As the minute hand on the clocks drew closer to the cherished hour, witnesses tell me, it became quieter and quieter, until a "deathly hush" fell, as they say. But at 0300 (Greenwich time) it exploded in a burst of submachinegun and machinegun fire directed at the brightening sky above. Climbing over the wire barricades, soldiers from both sides rushed toward the "neutral zone." Coming together, they regaled each other with water from their flasks and with cigarettes. When one Iranian officer broke his watch in order to keep the hands frozen in memory of the moment when the war ended, others immediately followed suit.

But until quite recently it seemed that the war would never end—the Iranians and Iraqis were killing each other with such ferocity and all attempts at peaceful mediation invariably ended in failure. Children born after the war had begun had already grown up and reached school age.

The reasons for this war—the most bloody and destructive in the second half of the 20th century—seemed to have been forgotten among all the reports on offensives and counteroffensives, exchanges of missile attacks, and attacks on ships at sea.

So how did it all begin? Perhaps with the attempt of the last Iranian shah to gain hegemony over the entire Persian Gulf region? Or perhaps with the claims of the mediaeval Persian empire on Iraq, which then belonged to another major power in the East—the Ottoman empire? Or perhaps the roots of the conflict go even further back in history—to the times when the Arabs coming from the Arabian Peninsula first encountered the Persians?

From ancient times right up to the present day even the geographical names of disputed areas in this region have been hotly contested. Not only the Iraqis, but all Arabs, for example, insist that the gulf dividing Iran and the Arabian Peninsula should be called the Arabian Gulf and are seriously offended when foreigners refer to it as the Persian Gulf, as is accepted in Europe.

Even before the Iranian revolution, conflicts and armed clashes had blown up more than once between Iran and Iraq. Some had thought that, with the overthrow of the shah, relations between the two countries would improve. They recalled in this respect that the spiritual leader of the new Iran, Imam Khomeyni, had spent almost 15 years in Iraq, where the local authorities had kindly given him refuge. But....

When the Iraqi leader, Saddam Husayn, sent a congratulatory telegram to Khomeyni after the victory of the revolution in Iran, he received an unexpected reply: "Peace to those who follow the path of righteousness"—a traditional formula in Islam for replying to greetings from an "infidel." The Iraqi president considered himself insulted.

Struggle for the triumph of the Islamic revolution is the sacred duty of every true Muslim—this principle is virtually law in the Islamic Republic of Iran. A center for the universal propagandization of "Islamic ideas" has been established in Tehran, where preachers have been trained for more than 20 Muslim countries. It is not surprising that the main target of this propaganda is neighboring Iraq—the rival in the battle for regional leadership.

Baghdad considered this activity crude interference in its internal affairs. Khomeyni's idea of "Islamic unity" conflicts with the doctrine of Arab unity, which forms the basis of the philosophy of Iraq's ruling Ba'th Party. Could it have been easy for Baghdad in these circumstances to resist the temptation to try to exploit the breakdown of the shah's powerful army and not only "punish the troublemakers in Tehran" but also decide long-standing territorial disputes in its favor, particularly the question of the Shatt al-'Arab?

The Shatt al-'Arab (the Persian name is Arvand Rud) is a river formed from the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates, which flows into the Persian Gulf. It is 225 kilometers long, with an average width of 500 meters. For many years it was the border between the Ottoman and Persian empires. In 1913, following the Constantinople protocol, the border was established on the Iranian side of the river. After the collapse of the Ottoman empire, Iran demanded that a new border be drawn—in the middle of the river along its entire length. Eventually, in 1975, with Algerian mediation, the sides reached an agreement under which the border between them ran through the thalweg (the deepest part of the river). In exchange for this Iran promised Iraq some sections of the border territory, but under the shah's regime they were never returned. In September 1980 Iraq denounced the Algerian treaty.

There is a widely held opinion that a big role in the unleashing of the war was played by external forces, primarily the United States. Angered by the unexpected loss of its position in Iran and humiliated by the seizure of the U.S. Embassy and the taking of U.S. hostages in Tehran, Washington was certainly not against the idea of a conflict between Iran and Iraq. But you can only fan flames that are already burning, so reducing the causes of the conflict to U.S. incitement would mean trying to squeeze real life to fit a narrow, primitive pattern. And it is still being debated in the United States itself after all these years as to whether the Iran-Iraq war was in U.S. strategic interests or not. After all, the longer it went on, the greater the risk became of neighboring Arab countries becoming drawn into the conflict—countries with which the United States has traditionally had close ties. Kuwait was subjected to Iranian missile attacks, ships from Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates became victims of the "tanker war," Saudi Arabia was threatened, and the danger of chaos on the oil market was becoming a growing possibility. It would obviously be logical to suppose in this connection that a conflict of different views on the Iran-Iraq war and its possible results would be reflected in U.S. policy. Hence the certain inconsistency in the course taken by the United States.

It has long been clear to most military specialists that none of the sides could gain a military victory. Iraq in fact announced its willingness to begin talks back in 1982.

But for a long time the Iranian leadership refused to compromise. Tehran's basic demands were public recognition of Iraq as the "aggressor," the latter's payment of enormous war reparations (some $300 billion), and the removal of the present Iraqi regime. Can you imagine any state that would accept these "peace" terms?

In the latter stages of the war the opponents reminded you of two boxers out of breath at the end of the fight. Iran was particularly weary. Nevertheless, the Iranian decision to recognize the UN Security Council resolution and accept a cease-fire came as a surprise to many. After all, virtually up until the last day the Iranian leaders kept reiterating on television, on the radio, and in the press that it would be "war until victory." Then suddenly....

"I had promised you that I would fight to the last drop of blood. But this decision, on which the future of the country depends, has had to be made. I renounce my earlier statement and entrust my dignity to the judgment of Allah." (From a radio address by Khomeyni to the Iranian people).

On 20 August combat operations on land, in the air, and at sea ceased and, 5 days later, Iran-Iraq talks began at the Geneva Palais des Nations under the aegis of the UN secretary general. To describe them as difficult would be saying nothing at all. Is there even one issue on which the sides are prepared to agree? Who should be considered the instigator of the war? How to exchange the 70,000 Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran for the 35,000 Iranians taken prisoner by Iraq (figures given by the Western press)? And what about the border along that ill-fated river, the Shatt al-'Arab?

This is possibly the hardest task the UN secretary general has ever had to face, but he has not lost his sense of optimism. "We must not be impatient. People must understand that this process will take time. Remember Afghanistan," Perez de Cuellar said at a briefing in Geneva.

It is indeed true that however insoluble the Afghan problem seemed, it did eventually begin to unravel.... Solutions to certain other serious regional conflicts also seem to be taking shape.

It could happen that the Iran-Iraq talks become deadlocked at some point and appear on the brink of collapse. It would be naive to expect that the tension in the Persian Gulf region will disappear immediately. Some

time must pass before the 8 years of tragedy are forgotten and the hatred, enmity, and mistrust disappear. The first, most difficult step has been taken, however. The war appears to be over. But will it be replaced with lasting peace?

East Europe

Solomentsev Concludes Visit to Romania

Received by Ceausescu

PM2609135788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] A meeting was held here today between Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party (RCP) and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Mikhail Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee. He heads the party control committee delegation staying in Romania at the invitation of the RCP Central Committee.

During the talk, which passed in a warm and comradely atmosphere, the sides exchanged information on problems that the RCP and the CPSU, as well as the peoples of Romania and the Soviet Union are now working on. The Soviet guest told his interlocutor about the progress in restructuring in the USSR as well as the revolutionary transformations taking place in Soviet society, which are enacted in keeping with the decisions of the 27th party congress and the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference.

At the meeting it was noted that the relations between the two fraternal socialist countries are characterized by common vital interests, mutually beneficial ties, and contacts that are gaining strength. It was stressed that the fulfillment of the accords reached at the meetings between Mikhail Gorbachev and Nicolae Ceausescu earlier are of crucial importance to deepening further cooperation in the political, economic, cultural, and other spheres, as well as to enhancing their interaction on the international scene.

The conversation was attended by N. Constantin, member of the RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee Central Collegium, and Ye.M. Tyazhelnikov, USSR ambassador to Romania.

Returns Home 24 Sep

PM2709093188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Return Home"]

[Text] Bucharest, 24 Sep—The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee delegation headed by M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, has visited the largest enterprise in Romania's sewn goods industry—the Bucharest Sewn Goods Association. The Soviet guests visited shops in the association, which holds first place in the sector in terms of its provision with modern equipment, and familiarized themselves with specimens of its output.

The association, where 16,000 people, mainly women, work, produces practically all kinds of sewn goods from woolen, cotton, silk, and synthetic fabrics. The vigorous activity of the scientific research institute of sewn goods modeling, set up under the association several years ago, promotes the accelerated introduction of particularly fashionable products into production. The association manufactures more than 12 million items every year. Some 70 percent of this output goes for export—to the USSR, the FRG, France, Italy, the United States. This year the association has an order from the USSR to supply clothes worth R20 million.

At a meeting between the delegation members and the association's leaders there was an interested discussion of the Romanian garment workers' mutually advantageous cooperation with kindred Soviet enterprises and organizations. It was pointed out that their ties have now been maintained for more than 30 years and that the further deepening of this cooperation should be promoted in every possible way.

At the USSR Embassy, M.S. Solomentsev addressed a meeting of the party aktiv of Soviet establishments in Romania, at which the tasks of party organizations in fulfilling the guidelines of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference were discussed.

The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee delegation, which has been in Romania at the invitation of the RCP Central Committee, left for home today.

The Soviet guests were seen off at Bucharest's Otopeni Airport by N. Constantin, member of the RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee and chairman of the RCP Central Committee Central Party Collegium, and by other officials.

The send-off party included Ye.M. Tyazhelnikov, USSR ambassador to Romania.

The delegation headed by M.S. Solomentsev was met at the airport in Moscow by V.M. Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR KGB; I.S. Gustov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee; R.P. Fedorov, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; and other senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

The welcoming party included I. Bucur, Romanian ambassador to the USSR.

Bucharest Talks Between Romania, Hungary Cited

PM2609135988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
24 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS reports under general heading "Romanian and Hungarian News Agencies Report"]

[Text] Bucharest, 23 Sep—N. Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP Central Committee and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, received in Bucharest M. Szuros, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, who is in Romania at the invitation of the RCP Central Committee.

AGERPRES reports that they discussed the possibilities for implementing the accords reached in Arad at summit level between the general secretaries of the two parties with regard to the further development of relations between the RCP and the MSZMP, the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Hungarian People's Republic, and the peoples of the two countries.

N. Ceausescu emphasized that the RCP will continue to develop multifaceted Romanian-Hungarian cooperation whose purpose is the advantage and benefit of both peoples, socialist building in both countries, and the common cause of socialism and peace.

Budapest, 23 Sep—M. Szuros, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, gave an interview to MTI about the results of his trip to Romania and his meetings with Romanian leaders.

He said in particular that the Hungarian side at the talks strove to contribute as much as possible to bringing closer together the views on questions on which the two parties' general secretaries exchanged opinions at the Arad meeting. Following this meeting, both countries analyzed the results of the talks and outlined the tasks stemming from the meeting. On this basis, both sides are striving to lay down a specific working program in the interests of the development of Hungarian-Romanian ties.

Press Reports on Biryukova Visit to CSSR

Meets Jakes 23 Sep

PM2709082588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting in Prague"]

[Text] Prague, 23 Sep—M. Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, today received A.P. Biryukova, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is paying a working visit to the CSSR.

During the cordial, friendly conversation there was a discussion of certain topical questions of the futher development of ties between the CPCZ and the CPSU arising from decisions of the two fraternal parties' congresses as well as the resolutions of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and recent CPCZ Central Committee plenums. There was an exchange of opinions on progress in the restructuring of the economic mechanism, the political system, and other aspects of society's life in the CSSR and USSR, and the experience and tasks of party work during the implementation of social policy. During the meeting, great attention was paid to the exchange of experience on increasing the contribution by cooperatives to supplying the market with goods and services.

Taking part in the conversation were M. Beno and F. Hanus, secretaries of the CPCZ Central Committee, and V.P. Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR.

A.P. Biryukova left Prague for Moscow on the same day.

A.P. Biryukova arrived in Moscow 23 September.

She was greeted at the airport by A.I. Lukyanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, R.P. Fedorov, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee department, and other officials.

Concludes Visit, Departs

PM2709115188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
25 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Questions of Cooperation Discussed"]

[Text] Prague, 24 Sep—A.P. Biryukova, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited the CSSR 18 through 23 September at the invitation of the CPCZ Central Committee. She familiarized herself with experience of party work in the sphere of social policy with regard to resolving the tasks of satisfying the population's needs for goods and services.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary visited a sewn goods enterprise in the city of Prostejov and a footwear association in the city of Partizanske. She also familiarized herself with the activities of a number of cooperatives producing consumer goods, as well as trade and consumer services enterprises.

A.P. Biryukova was received by M. Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and had talks with K. Hoffmann, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; I. Janak, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and first secretary of the Communist Party of Slovakia Central Committee; and M. Beno and F. Hanus, secretaries of the CPCZ Central Committee. The fundamental similarity of the restructuring under way in the USSR and the CSSR and the mutual desire to deepen Soviet-Czechoslovak ties in

all areas, including in resolving the task of saturating the market in both countries with consumer goods, were emphasized during the meetings and talks.

Specific questions connected with enhancing the efficiency of USSR-CSSR cooperation in producing equipment for light industry, activating the setting up of direct ties between enterprises, and creating joint enterprises for the production of consumer goods and the technical means necessary for producing these products were discussed.

CPCZ's Jakes on Restructuring, USSR Ties

PM2709114788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Trade Union Conference"]

[Text] Prague, 25 Sep—The restructuring of society mounted in the CSSR is aimed at accelerating the country's economic and social development and deepening socialist democracy, M. Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, stated at a statewide trade union conference held here. In the process of restructuring we depend on the experience of socialist countries, above all the USSR and the conclusions of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference, he said.

The aim of all our revolutionary transformations is to strengthen socialism. People who hope that they will be able to use the changes to destabilize society are mistaken. We will not allow our socialist system to be changed, the speaker stressed.

Assessing world development, the Czechoslovak speaker noted that the proposals put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Krasnoyarsk were a manifestation of the new political thinking and the USSR's good will. They are geared toward resolving key military-political problems and consolidating security and cooperation in one of the hugest regions of the world. The CPCZ and the entire Czechoslovak people fully support the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy. The CSSR's development is dependent on its friendship, alliance, and cooperation with the USSR and other countries of the socialist community. This is the firm and invariable course of our policy, M. Jakes said in conclusion.

RSFSR Visitors See Czech Premier, Mayor

PM2709090188 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Sep 88 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Stay in CSSR"]

[Text] Prague, 22 Sep—The RSFSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by V.P. Orlov, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is on a friendly visit to the CSSR, today visited the Prague National Committee. It was shown round by J. Kempny, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the Czech National Council.

During a friendly talk, Mayor Z. Horcik of Prague told the Soviet guests about the general plan for developing the Czechoslovak capital.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet delegation was received by L. Adamec, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the Czech Government. He stressed that the Czechoslovak people are following with great attention the restructuring in the Soviet Union, which has much in common with the restructuring in the CSSR. We have a common aim—to make socialism stronger, more dynamic, and more attractive.

V.P. Orlov noted that the main aim of the RSFSR delegation's visit is to strive to deepen ties between the Czech Socialist Republic and the RSFSR and to enrich them with new content.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet delegation visited the village of Lidice.

Bratislava City Delegation Visits Kiev 22 Sep

AU2609203588 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 23 Sep 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "A Conversation in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] On 22 September, Yu.N. Yelchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary, received a Bratislava city delegation headed by S. Rybar, Bratislava city CPSL Committee first secretary, which was in the Ukrainian SSR capital city on the occasion of the Bratislava Days in Kiev.

During a warm and friendly conversation, Yu.N. Yelchenko spoke about the progress made by the Ukrainian SSR in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th all-union party conference, and about the accountability and election campaign currently taking place in the republic's party organizations. The conversation touched upon the ways in which labor collectives are accomplishing the topical task set for socioeconomic development, and upon what is being done to improve patriotic and internationalist education and to perfect relations among nationalities. S. Rybar gave an account of the part played by Bratislava party organizations in the wide economic reform launched in the CSSR, and in the process of democratization in all spheres of life.

Both sides emphasized the great importance of further promoting the multifaceted relations between the cities of Kiev and Bratislava, of establishing direct contacts among enterprises and organizations, and of expanding contacts in the field of culture and among the working people.

M. Kovac, CSSR consul general in Kiev, participated in the conversation.

PRAVDA on Developments in Polish Crisis

PM2709083388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[Undated special correspondent O. Losoto report under the rubric "Our Correspondent's View": "Polish Dialogues"]

[Text] Katowice-Warsaw—You cannot paint a picture of present-day Poland using only one, two, or even three colors. You need a palette of many colors in order to show the entire complex knot of problems, efforts, and solutions determining the life of the country today. This trip provided me with rich food for thought and comparison and for raising questions about the paths of development and the essence of the reforms of Polish socialist renewal: extremely complex difficult tasks set by the vital process of building something new and cleansing society of the old mistakes.

When I flew into Warsaw the strikes in Gdansk and Szczecin and at certain mines in Silesia were still under way. When I left, the wave of protests had subsided. But the equilibrium established was disquieting because there was still some instability and the problems that had been raised were acute and difficult to solve.

Questions also arose. What has happened in Poland? Why did a new wave of strikes follow those of April-May? What provoked them—a protest against the radical reforms being implemented, against socialist renewal, or, on the contrary, dissatisfaction at the slow introduction of the plans into daily life? There were many questions like these. Many of them are difficult to answer.

Poland today is indisputably at one of the sharpest turning points in its postwar history. Socialist renewal is transforming the country. Political reforms have made great progress. The process of democratization has brought to life many hitherto slumbering social forces. At the same time the restructuring of the economy is proceeding slowly and the economic reform being implemented here has still not brought the longed-for results that would be really tangible to every man and all society as a whole. Inconsistency and haste are particularly perceptible in the economy. There is greater "material resistance" here than anywhere else: dogmas that have asserted themselves over the decades, volumes of instructions endeavoring to foresee every trifle and regulate every step, exaggerated authority taut as a spring, and the bureaucratic apparatus that is especially afraid of everything new.

The economy has also become the fuel that is constantly thrown on the smoldering fire of Polish problems. Political opponents often exploit this skillfully. Prices and incomes and the correlation between them are the sore point at the root of everything. Out of control, they have overturned not only individual economic concepts and prostrated many scientific authorities, but have also created great social tension in the country.

Polish dialogues... On the streets, in streetcars, and at party committees. People voice alarm and agitation and analyze events.

"What has happened is a surprise for us," Lech Szymancik, deputy [zamestitel] of the Warsaw Trade Union Accord, said.

We met on Saturday. A small building on one of Warsaw's quiet streets was crammed with people. Trade union activists representing many of the capital's labor collectives were animatedly discussing the latest news. Political opponents have not succeeded in provoking riots in Warsaw. But everyone realizes that the social tension that has built up in the country may surge up at any moment in a wave of discontent.

"We warned them," L. Szymancik said again.

"What does that mean?"

"The Polish Trade Union Accord frequently presented to the government its position with regard to the economic reform being implemented in the country and its disagreement with the methods and forms of its implementation. But people didn't fully understand us. Above all the prices and incomes policy did not enjoy trade union support. The unrestrained price drive led to a reduction in the standard of living for many strata of society. But it was most serious for the workers employed in the state sector. Thus, the reason for the social tension lies in the economic sphere. There is, of course, also a political aspect. The opposition. Remnants of extreme 'Solidarity.' The position of the Roman Catholic Church."

One of the people present noted bitterly:

"I have been a member of the party for 43 years. I worked in the underground. I am an honored figure in the Polish workers movement. How many times has this happened before: Hard times have come again. Workers are indignant that we don't stand up for their interests. Some young workers say outright that it's just promises and marking time..."

Of course, not everyone thinks like that. This is an extreme opinion. I only cited it to show the complexity and acuteness of the moment and the definite polarization of views.

We continued the discussion begun with the Warsaw trade unionists at the Polish Trade Union Accord. I will say right away that the discussion continued in an equally acute and ardent fashion. Evidently people have accumulated a great deal of burning subject matter.

My interlocutor is Romauld Sosnowski, deputy chairman of the Polish Trade Union Accord.

"Trade unions passed a vote of no confidence in the government," he said.

This would have been a political sensation 10 years ago. Today it is a fact of Poland's complex reality.

"Unfortunately," he continued, "I must mention once again the mistakes made by the authorities at various levels regarding working people and the trade unions. Our position is to assess the people who are to blame for the prevailing situation. The fact that the government acknowledges its mistakes means nothing since no one will take responsibility for these mistakes and all working people have to pay for them. I have just come from a meeting of the chairmen of trade union organizations. What bitterness they poured out. They have tremendous complaints regarding the administration. The position of labor veterans is becoming increasingly difficult. Inflation has overstepped all planned norms. How many problems are there among young people? It is no accident that young people became the backbone of the strikes. People have a sense of social injustice. Society is becoming stratified."

During the time I was in Poland, a PZPR Central Committee plenum was held. It analyzed the sociopolitical and economic situation in the country and the party's pressing tasks under these complex conditions. A plan is being elaborated to consolidate the national economy by the years 1989-1990. The PZPR put forward broad initiatives to substantially expand the platform of national accord, inviting to take part in the debates on ways of renewal everyone who adheres to the principles of the constitution and who is endeavoring to make a positive contribution to resolving the economic and social problems worrying Poles.

The strikes have ended but the problems remain and they need to be resolved all the same, I frequently heard my interlocutors say in Warsaw. They advised me to go to Katowice—Poland's largest industrial region. Everything is more conspicuous there, they said. The problems are also more prominent there.

Jan Zielinski, secretary of the PZPR voivodship committee, was already waiting for us. There was a photograph on his table. He showed it to us. The photo showed the gate of the "Borynia" Mine. Strikers were holding a large banner bearing the words: "Gorbachev—You are with us."

"What is this—provocation, naivete, or just confidence in the correctness of their actions?" I asked him.

Jan Zielinski looked at the photo once again and replied slowly:

"It is a complex question. A great deal has become confused in young people's minds. And it is young people who run these protests. They favor renewal but don't like the prevailing situation. They were only 12-14 in 1980-1981 when Poland was rocked by a most acute economic and sociopolitical crisis. Today they think their vital interests have not been protected."

"What does the voivodship party organization see as the main reasons for the present conflict?"

"There are several reasons. Take just the question of miners' wages. The increase in inflationary processes in the Polish economy, the lack of tangible effects of the reform, and the deteriorating supply of goods to the domestic market arouses concern in mining families regarding the preservation of their standard of living. In our country a miner's wage is made up of many components. Remuneration for basic working days —from Monday to Friday—occupies a progressively smaller place in these components. For instance, a miner receives one-third of his monthly wages for working Saturdays. Hence he feels that there is inadequate regard and remuneration for his work during his basic worktime in relation to other sectors and professions. We have frequently raised this question but have not yet succeeded in resolving it. If only this were the only problem! There is also the lack of clear prospects for the development of the coal industry and, in particular, the lack of prospects for a reduction in worktime in the sector. The problem of the deterioration in the ecological situation and the difficulties associated with this can also be cited. As can the problems of housing construction, transport, trade, and municipal services, and the infiltration into certain labor collectives of former 'Solidarity' extremists. These are only a few of the reasons that have, in our opinion, caused the present tension."

The labor conflicts began and were resolved in various ways. At the "Kazimierz-Juliusz" Mine we were told that there was an attempt to delay the first shift. The mine's management and representatives of the PZPR committee and the trade unions came out to the miners. A debate began. A list of questions that the administration is to resolve was compiled. Soon the miners set off for the pit face.

There are 7,000 men working at the "Czerwone Zaglebie" Mine and this collective brings 8,300 tonnes of coal to the surface every day.

Early in the morning five men infiltrated the mine and began to call for a strike, at the same time distributing pamphlets announcing that the mine was on strike. The collective did not succumb to the provocation. All five were arrested. It turned out that four didn't work at the mine at all and two of them had come there specially from Warsaw.

"Our collective," Zdzislaw Swientek, first secretary of the mine party committee and member of the PZPR Central Committee, said, "has great labor traditions. For 10 years in succession, since the mine was set up in its present form, there has not been a single case of the collective failing to fulfill the plan targets. But that doesn't mean we don't have difficulties. The prices and income problem is our problem too. We must be realistic. The economic demands put forward by miners are correct but they can't all be resolved at once. You can't unravel all the knots by strikes. We do a great deal of work with the collective. Meetings and conversations take place. We watch to ensure that contact between the management and the collective is not severed. We explain our political opponents' calculations. It is only through dialogue and agreement that you can achieve mutual trust. There's no other way."

The meetings in Silesia reflect the problems troubling Poles today. Our conversation with M. Rakowski, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, began by analyzing these problems and assessing the situation prevailing in the country.

"The situation is still complex," he said. "Our opponents haven't thrown in the towel. New attempts to exacerbate the situation are not precluded.

"What are the reasons behind the present conflict? It arose for economic reasons but soon assumed a political character: demands for trade union pluralism and for the restoration of 'Solidarity.'

"Our discussion touched on many aspects of the present situation. The trade unions passed a vote of no confidence in the government. This was accompanied by a wave of criticism directed at the government. Let us recall the latest PZPR Central Committee plenum. The entire complexity of the matter lies in the fact that the government has limited possibilities for effectively changing the material position of working people. We find ourselves in a knot of contradictions.

"Part of society has still retained its fear of what happened in 1980-1981. The working class did not actively support the current strikes. Increased realism of thinking is noticeable. This thinking section of society is dissatisfied with the current economic situation but it realizes that a great deal has changed politically for the better.

"Opponents throw in the question of the country's alleged 7 lost years. Thus, we are talking about an attempt to shape negative public opinion toward the authorities, the party, and the state, which have allegedly done nothing to transform life in Poland. This is not true. The reforms were calculated to achieve far-reaching changes and they do not apply solely to the economy. Despite the serious difficulties, marked successes have been achieved in the economy. In 1981, for instance, coal extraction fell by 30 million tonnes and at the beginning of 1982 the state treasury was completely empty. Cooperation ties were severed and Poland's international prestige fell. Today everything looks different. Trade unions have become the true defenders of working people's interests. New democratic organs have been set up: the State and Constitutional Tribunals, a Sejm Socioeconomic Council, a plenipotentiary citizens' rights institute. Polish-Soviet cooperation has been filled with new substance.

"A few words about our mistakes. Unfortunately, some people have already forgotten the lessons of 1980-1981. We also made mistakes in implementing the prices and incomes policy, which resulted in a deterioration in people's material situation. It was also a mistake that we did not draw the requisite conclusion following the April-May strikes.

"A new situation has taken shape," M. Rakowski said. "It was opened up by the meetings between C. Kiszczak and L. Walesa and other representatives of the public within the framework of the authorities' initiative on holding a roundtable meeting involving opposition representatives. Politically speaking, this is an extension of the implementation of the party course of broadening the platform of national accord."

The Polish Sejm discussed a report from the Sejm Extraordinary Commission for Monitoring the Implementation of Economic Reform devoted to the government's use of the extraordinary powers it had been granted and accepted the government's resignation, instructing it to perform its duties until the formation of a new government.

Poland is moving along the difficult road of socialist renewal. Everything does not always turn out as planned. Real life is not a straight line from point A to point B. It is a road with sharp corners, slopes, and descents, knots of contradictions, and burning problems.

Aims of Hungary's 'New March Front' Discussed

OW2309125088 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1330 GMT 22 Sep 88

[From "The World Today" program, presented by Vladimir Tsvetov]

[Text] Recently the Hungarian press began exposing the activities of the so-called New March Front. This organization first appeared in December last year but the press has only now begun writing about it. Published excerpts from the statement made by the New March Front makes it possible to judge the goals of this organization.

The statement notes in particular that the way out of the crisis Hungary is presently going through must be determined by open democratic discussions. The front speaks out in favor of reform and restructuring of the existing system of political institutions. In its statement, it also sees the need to reexamine the party's leading role.

Consequently, this role will only be historically justified if the party proves itself to be the prime mover of social, economic, and spiritual progress. In conclusion, the areas of competence of party organizations must be determined and open public control over this should be ensured. Furthermore, the New March Front statement points out the importance of ensuring the freedom of all opinions—except of course those opinions that cause national, racial, or religious hatred—as well as of ensuring the right of criticizing official policies and institutions. The future of the economy, the document emphasizes, is seen to be a government-regulated market economy that is socialist in character, built on the basis of a multitude of private forms of ownership.

Interestingly, the initiator of the New March Front is Reszo Nyers, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party [MSZMP] Politburo. In an interview with NEPSZABADSAG, he said that the organization under discussion is a sort of political, critical, spiritual workshop that seeks to formulate opinions and proposals for the political arena. The front does not have the characteristics of a party and acts within broad political parameters. In reply to a question as to what extent his present position in the MSZMP Politburo is compatible with his membership in the New March Front, Nyers said: It is imperative for a Communist to have freedom of action both within the party's framework as well as outside of it. For example, the party had long ago given up the management of science— a policy consistent with Stalinist ideas. Intellectual laboratories—and the front is one of them—cannot be managed by decree. In the past, he noted in the interview, I aspired to arrive at a point of view independently and this did not make me oppose the party. The holding of one or another post cannot be regarded as an obstacle preventing a person learning from a broader social environment.

Silayev Receives BCP's Doynov 22 Sep

PM2709093388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Development Prospects"]

[Text] On 22 September I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received O. Doynov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Bulgarian "Heavy Machine Building" association.

There was a discussion of the results of the joint session in Moscow of the collegiums of the USSR Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building and Bulgaria's "Heavy Machine Building" association, which examined the state and prospects for the further development of mutually beneficial scientific, technical, and production cooperation. It was noted in particular here that the joint session of collegiums, the first in the practice of cooperation between USSR and Bulgarian machine builders, is a good example of collaboration between organs of sectoral management.

Bulgarian Leaders Send Thanks for Greetings

PM2709110388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 1

[Message of thanks to Soviet leadership bodies from Bulgaria's Todor Zhivkov and Georgiy Atanasov]

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee,

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium,

The USSR Council of Ministers,

Dear Comrades,

We express to you and, through you, to all the Soviet people our profound gratitude for your cordial congratulations and good wishes on the 44th anniversary of the victory of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria.

We fully share your determination to continue strengthening the unity between the BCP and the CPSU and fraternal Bulgarian-Soviet friendship. By their labor and concrete deeds the Communists and all the working people of our country will continue to reveal more fully the vast potential in the all-around cooperation and interaction between our countries in the interests of renewing socialism and radically improving the situation in Europe and the world.

Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council,

Georgiy Atanasov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers.

West Europe

Vorotnikov Concludes Visit to FRG 24 Sep

Arrives in Stuttgart

LD2409105388 Moscow TASS in English 1030 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Stuttgart September 24 TASS—Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, who is staying in West Germany on a visit arrived today in Stuttgart, the administrative centre of Baden-Wuerttemberg.

He will meet with Lothar Spaeth, minister-president of Baden-Wuerttemberg, and representatives of its business circles. They will discuss the state and prospects of Soviet-West German economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation, including between the Russian Federation and Baden-Wuerttemberg.

Further on Stuttgart Visit

LD2509020088 Moscow TASS in English 2301 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Stuttgart September 25 TASS—Mercedes cars, machine tools, and electronic equipment made at the plants of Stuttgart, the principal city of Baden-Wuerttemberg, are known far beyond the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG). Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, visited this city on Saturday, the final day of his visit to the FRG.

He met with Dr Lothar Spaeth, minister-president of Baden-Wuerttemberg. Various aspects of economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation were discussed during the meeting. Special attention was devoted to matters of cooperation between enterprises, firms, scientific institutions and higher learning establishments of the Russian Federation and Baden-Wuerttemberg. The conversation dealt, in particular, with joint training of managers for the Soviet economy, and expansion of co-production arrangements. The consideration of matters concerning the widening of cultural relations between the Russian Federation and Baden-Wuerttemberg figured importantly.

Both sides expressed the view that they had an interesting and useful talk which would help map out further practical steps in cooperation.

Dr Spaeth pointed out that there were good opportunities for that, and came out in favour of intensification of mutual contacts. He voiced confidence that the forthcoming visit to the USSR by the FRG's chancellor and the visit to the FRG by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee would open a new chapter in relations between the two countries.

Vitaliy Vorotnikov said the potentialities for further development of cooperation between the USSR and the FRG were far from being exhausted, and that it was essential to intensify bilateral cooperation in every way. He invited Dr. Lothar Spaeth to visit the Soviet Union.

The minister-president of Baden-Wuerttemberg gave a dinner in honour of the Soviet guest.

Concrete projects for cooperation between the firms of Baden-Wuerttemberg and Soviet partners were discussed during Vitaliy Vorotnikov's meeting with members of the Land's business community.

On the same day Vitaliy Vorotnikov left for home. At Stuttgart airport he was seen off by Dr. Lothar Spaeth.

Returns Home From FRG

LD2409191288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow, 24 Sep (TASS)—Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, returned to Moscow from the FRG today. He had been there on a visit.

Vitaliy Vorotnikov was met at the airport by Nikolay Slyunkov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

FRG's Brandt Cited on Reunification 'Illusions'

PM2709095588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Abandoning Illusions"]

[Text] Bonn, 23 Sep—The illusions about the "reunification of Germany" that took hold during the "cold war" are the "biggest lie of the second German republic"—that is, the FRG. This was stated by W. Brandt, honorary chairman of the Social Democratic Party, at a Bonn speech at an event to mark the forthcoming 40th anniversary of the FRG's Basic Law (Constitution). W. Brandt sharply criticized the thesis of West German nationalist and revanchist circles that the "German Reich" allegedly still exists.

He rejected as a misinterpretation the claim that the FRG Constitution "prescribes German reunification" and assessed a Federal Constitutional Court ruling regarding the treaty on the foundations of relations between the GDR and the FRG as "far removed from real life." This resolution used the term "German reunification." The country's supreme judicial body was thus trying to create the impression that the "German Reich" is "merely temporarily dormant" and that the state border between the FRG and the GDR is analogous to the borders between West German Lands.

The eminent Western German politician pointed to the fact that from the outset there has been a "great confusion of concepts" in the FRG, whereby the "concept of national unity has been replaced by the concept of reunification, as if the entire problem were a question of the form in which GDR and FRG union should proceed." W. Brandt called for "account to be taken of the altered foreign policy realities" and for fictions to be abandoned.

W. Brandt stressed that it was necessary to overcome the loss of the sense of reality, and, on coming to power, the Social Democrats embarked on a "new Ostpolitik" with regard to the socialist states.

Danish Delegation Meets Dobrynin During Visit

PM2709111588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
26 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "At the Invitation of the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A delegation from the Danish Socialist People's Party paid its first official visit to the Soviet Union 18 through 25 September at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The delegation was made up of delegation head G. Petersen, chairman of the party; B. Mortensen, member of the party main board executive committee and chairman of the party trade union commission; O. Bennedsen and J.O. Jensen, members of the party main board; S. Kjeldorf, deputy chairman of the party international commission; and M. Schmidt-Jensen, member of the party's youth organization leadership.

A meeting took place 23 September between the delegation and A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. In the course of the conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and friendship, mutual satisfaction was expressed at the establishment of official interparty ties between the CPSU and the Socialist People's Party.

The guests from Denmark displayed great interest in the processes of restructuring under way in the Soviet Union in light of the decisions of the 27th congress and the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and expressed wishes for success for the Soviet people in implementing the planned transformations.

While discussing international problems, a high assessment was made of the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, which initiated a real reduction in nuclear arms in our world. In this connection hope was expressed that accords would be secured most speedily on a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive arms while strictly observing the ABM Treaty.

Both sides stressed that Europe's role in international affairs is increasing and they stressed the need to overcome Europe's division into isolated military-political and economic groupings and to step up efforts to build a "common European home." The Danish side expressed support for the idea of holding a roundtable to discuss the entire range of European problems, in which forces representing the entire European political spectrum could take part.

The members of the Socialist People's Party delegation expressed their party's positive attitude toward the Soviet initiatives to strengthen peace and cooperation in the northern region expounded in M.S. Gorbachev's Murmansk speech of 1987. They stressed the unchanged nature of the Socialist People's Party course of supporting the creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe.

While discussing Soviet-Danish relations, both sides advocated developing these relations on the basis of friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation and using all available reserves to further broaden and strengthen them.

The conversation showed the coincidence or proximity of both parties' positions on cardinal questions of European security and social problems. They voiced their common intention to continue contacts and cooperation between the CPSU and the Socialist People's Party.

The Socialist People's Party delegation had conversations at the USSR Academy of Sciences United States and Canada Institute and the Europe Institute, the AUCCTU, the Komsomol Central Committee, and the NOVYY MIR editorial office and visited the Moldavian SSR, where it had a meeting at the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee, visited industrial and agricultural enterprises, talked with working people's collectives, and familiarized itself with the sights of Kishinev.

Draft French Military Budget Provokes Disputes

PM2709134388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
26 Sep 88 Second Edition p 1, 5

[Own correspondent V. Bolshakov report under the "Correspondent Comments" rubric: "The Military Budget Is at the Center of Debate"]

[Text] Paris, 25 Sep—France's new government headed by Socialist M. Rocard has published the draft for its first state budget for 1989.

Passions are raging over this and embittered disputes are under way. The new military budget was not the least of the reasons for this. According to preliminary outlines, it totals Fr182.4 billion or 3.7 percent of France's gross national product. The military budget prepared by the Socialists is 4.65 percent higher than last year's prepared by the right-wing parties. This is explained not only by the fact that, in terms of his convictions, France's current defense minister Socialist Jean-Pierre Chevenement is by no means a "dove," but also by the fact that the rightists, who in 1986 adopted a 5-year program for the arms race costing more than Fr500 billion, planned to increase military expenditure annually in connection with the modernization and buildup of nuclear and conventional arsenals that they initiated. More than one-half of the budget appropriations will be used for these purposes. Thus 32 percent of military expenditure will be spent on the nuclear arsenal. Stressing that this is a priority avenue in the organizational development of France's Armed Forces, J.-P. Chevenement said at a news conference that France's defense is based on the principles of "deterrence" and must be "sufficient." The defense minister asserted that, even though the budget makes provision for an extremely ambitious arms program, it nevertheless proceeds from the premise of "reasonable necessity."

However, by no means everyone agreed with the reasonableness of this assertion. There are many people in the Socialist Party itself who think that France should not now proceed along the path of amassing excessive levels of arms. President F. Mitterrand has said this on more than one occasion and in the course of the recent election campaign he promised that arms reductions in Europe would be one of the main tasks of his second presidential term.

At the same time, France's new military budget includes a class of expenditure for financing the "Hades" program—the creation of nuclear missiles with a range of 450 km, that is, weapons of the very kind now being eliminated in Europe under the Soviet-U.S. accords. The program for building the new S-4 missile to add to the strategic arsenal and also a nuclear aircraft carrier has also provoked many disputes. A dispute has broken out over the incorporation into the budget of a program for producing Dassault's "Rafale" fighter-interceptors, which will cost tens of billions of francs. Evidently a dispute is under way in the leadership of the Socialist Party as to how advisable all this is now when the level of military danger has considerably fallen in Europe as a result of USSR-U.S. accords and this cannot fail to impact on the very structure of the new military budget. In particular, the budget does not view the construction of S-4 missiles as a priority. That is an important change for the better.

A sensation was also caused by the announcement of the president's intention to suspend for 2-3 years the "resolute modernization of tactical nuclear weapons," including a suspension of the program for the creation of "Hades" missiles if progress is made in reducing conventional arms in Europe and in evening out the imbalance between the Warsaw Pact and NATO.

However, this report was refuted by the Elysee Palace Friday evening. It was pointed out that the president opposes the modernization of certain types of NATO nuclear weapons but France, as is well known, is not a member of the NATO military organization. Consequently, the proposals on a 2-3 year freeze do not apply to the "Hades" missile.

Obviously, the idea of "freezing" the program for modernizing France's nuclear arsenal has not assumed any concrete form and has not become policy. There is still a long way to go before this happens. Once again there is confirmation that France is still true to its former stance—not to participate in nuclear disarmament talks until USSR and U.S. nuclear arsenals have been considerably reduced and not to discuss nuclear weapons in the context of the planned talks on conventional arms in Europe envisaged by recent Warsaw Pact proposals.

Finally, the Elysee Palace announced that France's position in the disarmament sphere will be defined in two speeches made by F. Mitterrand—at the United Nations on 28 September and then on 10 October in the Military Academy in Paris. So there is not long to wait for the definitive explanations.

Cultural Cooperation Program Signed With Norway

PM2709101188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] A program for cultural and scientific cooperation between the Soviet Union and Norway for the period 1989-1993 was signed in Moscow 23 September.

Latin America & Caribbean

Panamanian Foreign Minister Interviewed

LD2609125488 Moscow TASS in English 1238 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Panama September 26 TASS—"The key reason behind Washington's aggression against Panama is the bid to preserve its military presence in the Panama Canal Zone", Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter said in an interview with TASS correspondent Eldar Abdullayev. He emphasized that the 1977 treaties under which the United States is duty bound to withdraw all Pentagon bases from the Republic's territory by the end of the century "deny it of the pivotal springboard that allows it to monitor the situation in the region and threaten the national liberation movement of the Latin American peoples".

It is but natural that Washington assaulted Panama with the entire power of its state terrorism apparatus exactly now. The matter is that the dismantling and redeployment of the Pentagon sophisticated bases in the Panama Canal Zone to any other country will require not only multi-billion funds, vast manpower and technical resources, but will also take up ten years as minimum. And all the same the United States will not find an equivalent replacement for Panama on the continent by virtue of its unique geographical position.

The fact that the Republic has categorically rejected the United States' diktat and attempts to perpetuate the Pentagon presence there and keeps playing an active role in the Contadora process and the Non-Aligned Movement sparks the White House's sharp discontent. "Panama refused to provide territory for an act of aggression against Sandinist Nicaragua and fully supported the USSR's proposals for phasing out military bases in the world to achieve global security", the minister went on.

"We continue to harbour the feelings of friendship and sympathy with the American people and take considerable efforts to avoid confrontation with their government. But in Washington they stubbornly do not wish to understand it. In less than a year and a half the Reagan administration managed to bring bilateral relations down to a critical mark, to heat up to the maximum the anti-American sentiments in Panama. The conclusion that follows from all the aforesaid is obvious: The United

States is duty bound to perceive clearly that the continuation of the psychological warfare, the muscle show, and the arms twisting policy towards Panama are fraught with the most negative and unpredictable consequences".

Haiti Communist Leader Views Current Situation

PM2609083388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Sep 88 Morning Edition pp 1, 5

[Own correspondent A. Kamorin dispatch under the rubric "IZVESTIYA Calls You": "Power in the Sergeants' Hands?"]

[Text] Havana—Observing the situation in Haiti, the mass media of Caribbean countries point out that last Saturday's military coup has created a very unusual situation for that Caribbean country.

Your correspondent talked about the situation in Port-au-Prince over the telephone with Rene Theodore, secretary general of the Central Committee of the United Party of Haitian Communists.

[Kamorin] Comrade Theodore, can you confirm that the overthrow of General Namphy's regime was the result of a "sergeants' conspiracy," as news agencies report?

[Theodore] So it would seem, at least for the time being. The terror unleashed by the "Tonton Macoutes" under the leadership of Franck Romain, mayor of Port-au-Prince, had exacerbated the situation not only in the country but also in the Army. Incidentally, this has been an extremely tense time for us as well. After the massacre in the Church of Saint Jean Bosco the party demanded that the authorities immediately arrest the guilty persons, who were well known. The reactionaries responded by starting to prepare a strike against the Communists and, in particular, committing acts of sabotage against our headquarters. However, events took a different turn.

Relying on the support of privates in the armed forces, a group of 30 men, sergeants and corporals from among the guard at the Presidential Palace, headed by Sergeant Joseph Hebreux, overthrew Namphy, who had been secretly helping Romain's storm troopers.

[Kamorin] What are the views of this group?

[Theodore] Joseph Hebreux expressed them in his televised statement after the coup, before handing over power to General Prosper Avril. He said that Haitian soldiers were ashamed of the policies of the dishonest officers governing the country and were "fully resolved to enhance Haiti's moral prestige, besmirched by crimes which have aroused indignation among the people and in world public opinion."

Later Hebreux' group submitted a 19-point program to Avril, making his holding of power conditional on fulfilling those demands. They include the democratization of life in the country, a return to constitutional rule by way of a general election, improved living conditions for soldiers, the punishment of Franck Romain and his minions, and so forth.

[Kamorin] How strong are the positions of Joseph Heubreux' supporters?

[Theodore] They have gotten down to work very energetically. A purge is being carried out in the Army: Soldiers and sergeants in many subunits are arresting their commanders and handing them over to the custody of the Armed Forces General Staff. These actions are frequently accompanied by exchanges of fire. Eight top officers have already been arrested. Literally a couple of hours ago the same fate befell Colonel Erber Balmon, commander of the Navy. The soldiers themselves are promoting officers whom they trust to take the place of the ousted commanders.

The population's spontaneous support for the military men's actions is a very important element in the situation today. Support groups have come into being in many districts of the capital and in other cities and are helping soldiers to expose the "Tonton Macoutes" guilty of killings. The clearing out of criminals is the chief thing now taking place in the country.

[Kamorin] How do you rate Gen P. Avril as head of state?

[Theodore] It is hard to judge this as yet. The group which carried out the coup virtually deprived him of the political initiative. True, it is impossible to predict how long this situation will prevail.

Of course, no one expects P. Avril to fulfill without delay all 19 points of the program put to him. So far he has, in fact, only appointed the members of his cabinet. This was done quickly and in accordance with demands. There was one condition: None of the ministers must have held posts in the past in a single one of the governments of recent years, including the Duvalier government. The general also declared his readiness to begin a national dialogue. So far this has been the extent of his activity.

[Kamorin] How do opposition forces regard the proposal for a dialogue?

[Theodore] Our party advocates national concord. However, no practical steps have yet been taken to begin a dialogue. We await proposals from the new authorities. Practically all the leaders of opposition organizations adhere to the same viewpoint. Only Sylvio Claude, leader of the Christian Democratic Party, has declared that he does not wish to hear of talks with P. Avril. I believe that the present situation in the country demands of us, on the one hand, goodwill in our attempts to advance toward democracy and, on the other, a high degree of political vigilance.

A new report on the development of the situation came out of Haiti after my conversation with R. Theodore. Gen Avril has appointed as commander in chief of the country's armed forces General Herard Abraham, who held the post of foreign minister in the first military government created after the fall of the J.-C. Duvalier regime in 1986. Thus, Colonel J.-C. Paul, who took up this post right after the coup, did not hold on to it for even 3 days. His whereabouts are not known at present. The United States has once again officially issued a demand for Paul to be handed over to U.S. justice, which is indicting him on a charge of organizing drug smuggling.

The new head of the military regime has issued an appeal to soldiers, urging them to "keep calm," stop arresting officers, and "begin discussing the Army's urgent problems."

It is reported from Santo Domingo that a group of Dominican journalists has demanded that the Republic's general prosecutor initiate criminal proceedings against Henri Namphy, the overthrown dictator of Haiti, who has found refuge in this capital. He is accused of aiding and abetting the killers of a Dominican television cameraman who, along with other foreign journalists, was attacked by "Tonton Macoutes" during the "bloody elections" of 29 November last year. The authorities in the Dominican Republic have not yet made any reply to that request.

Cuban Leadership Discusses Africa Situation

PM2709084388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Sep 88 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report: "Analyzing the Situation"]

[Text] Havana, 22 Sep—A joint session of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat was held in Havana 15-17 September under the chairmanship of Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Republic's Councils of State and Ministers. The session was devoted to an analysis of the country's current socioeconomic position and certain aspects of the international situation.

The session participants discussed recent events connected with the situation in southern Africa, as well as the process of seeking a peaceful settlement to the conflicts in Angola and Namibia. They supported the joint Cuban-Angolan position at the four-party talks on southwestern Africa aimed at establishing peace in the region, achieving Namibian independence, and concluding agreements which would satisfy all parties to the talks, as well as safeguarding the Angolan people's legitimate interests.

During an examination of the domestic situation the session participants pointed to the positive changes that have recently been taking place in the country as a result of the process launched in Cuba of rectifying errors and eliminating negative phenomena.

Yakovlev Receives Venezuela's Castillo

LD2609170088 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1320 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow, 26 Sep (TASS)—Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today met with R. Carpio Castillo, chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Congress of Venezuela, who arrived in Moscow yesterday at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

During a conversation that took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, they discussed restructuring in the USSR, the new political thinking, and its effect on the dynamics of international relations.

Political & Social

PRAVDA Reports 23 Sep Presidium Session

PM2609141188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Session of USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] A session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was held in the Kremlin on 23 September under the chairmanship of A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The question of convening the next session of the USSR Supreme Soviet—the 10th—was examined. A decree on the convening of the session and questions for its examination will be published in the press.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium discussed the question of Voroshilovgrad Oblast soviets' work with citizens' appeals in conditions of democratization and glasnost. A report was delivered by A.V. Kasyanov, chairman of the Voroshilovgrad Oblispolkom. G.I. Yeremey, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Legislative Proposals Commission and chairman of the Moldavian Republic Trade Union Council, delivered a report on behalf of deputies familiar with the local situation.

Speakers in the debates were: V.S. Shevchenko, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; G.S. Tarazevich, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.N. Ryzhova, member of the Presidium and an arc welder at the Podolsk machine building plant; S.A. Shalayev, member of the Presidium and chairman of the AUCCTU; V.M. Velichko, USSR minister of heavy, power, and transport machine building; A.G. Korkin, USSR first deputy minister of the coal industry; and L.V. Radyukevich, USSR first deputy minister of ferrous metallurgy.

The resolution adopted on the question under discussion will be published in the press.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium discussed and approved a plan of basic measures to be conducted in the USSR Supreme Soviet by March 1989.

Some other questions of state life were also discussed. Comrades L.N. Zaykov and Yu.F. Solovyev took part in the discussion of items on the agenda.

10th Session To Meet 27 Oct

LD2409110088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] The USSR Supeme Soviet Presidium has decided to convene the 10th session of the 11th convocation of the Supreme Soviet on 27 October 1988 in Moscow. The following are being submitted for review at the session: the 1989 state plan for economic and social development of our country, the progress in fulfilling the 1988 plan, the state budget for next year, the fulfillment of the budget in 1987, and approval of the decrees of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Preparations for the session are proceeding very energetically. As you know, 18 preparatory commissions have been created. The deputies there are reviewing quite literally every figure and article in the sections of the plan and budget proposal.

Central Committee Meets on Hydroelectric Power

LD2609222588 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] The fuller use of renewable hydropower resources is a highly efficient direction for the improvement of the structure of the country's fuel and power budget and a reliable supply of power for the national economy and population. Mikhail Gorbachev spoke of the need to further develop the hydropower industry (taking into account strict observance of ecological requirements) at meetings with the population in Krasnoyarsk territory.

In the recent past this problem was extensively covered by the Soviet mass media. However, a lack of information on many questions of the state and development of the hydropower industry and its influence on the environment often affects the coverage of this problem. In this connection the CPSU Central Committee today held a meeting between executives of the mass media and scientists, experts, and the leading staff of the State Planning Committee, the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control, the State Committee for Environmental Protection, the State Committee for Science and Technology, the State Agro-Industrial Committee, and the Ministry of Power and Electrification.

Speakers at the meeting touched on some key provisions of the USSR energy program and the state of and prospects for studies on the development of the hydropower industry.

They expressed their ideas on the economic efficiency of hydroelectric plants and the need for a comprehensive approach to tackling the tasks of the power industry, water conservancy, and fisheries, while at the same time paying greater attention to questions of environmental

control. Comparative data were cited on the scale of development and the technical level of the hydropower industry in the USSR and abroad, and the influence on the environment.

It was pointed out that the experience of constructing and operating hydropower stations exposed a number of negative effects of hydroengineering installations on the ecological situation. In this connection it is necessary to carry out more thorough studies of hydroelectric plant projects and nature protection measures. Their examination should be made by the best scientific personnel of the country. Feasibility reports on their construction, including ecological aspects, should be discussed with the public on a wide scale.

Executives of ministries and departments, scientists, and experts replied to journalists' questions, who were given information materials on the most important aspects in the development of the hydropower industry.

The meeting was addressed by Vladimir Dolgikh, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Comrade Shcherbina, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Yermin, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and senior staff of the CPSU Central Committee took part in the meeting.

Further on Nagorno-Karabakh Ethnic Unrest

Baku on Yerevan Situation

NC2709083888 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Here is a report on the situation around Nagorno-Karabakh:

The situation in Stepanakert and several residential areas close to that city has begun to improve to a certain degree as a result of the special situation that was declared in the Azerbaijan SSR's Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and Agdam Rayon, and the curfew that was imposed in those areas, in accordance with the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium's authorization. The organs responsible for maintaining public order have been taking measures to protect the security of the citizens and maintain constitutional order.

Those who have not heeded curfew regulations have been detained and firearms and [word indistinct] weapons have been seized.

Industrial establishments, construction organizations, transportation services, and educational institutions have not been operating in Stepanakert since 17 September.

The Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers have appealed to the communists and workers in the Armenian SSR in connection with the tension that was created in that republic as a result of the activities of the leaders of the [word indistinct] Nagorno-Karabakh committee, who have been released by the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The appeal calls on them to act with a high degree of patriotic awareness and caution, behave in a responsible way, make an effort to be worthy of the Armenian people's patriotic and international traditions, and avoid becoming an instrument of blind forces. The appeal said: We must work both in unison and individually not only for the future of our children but also for the future of our people, our own (?homeland), and our entire country. We must also work for the future of the reconstruction course, democracy, and openness.

However, the effort made by the government organs and party organizations to reduce tension through convincing methods in Yerevan and other cities in the Armenian SSR has failed to achieve the required results.

Individual and irresponsible elements sought to put unconstitutional demands to the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers and called for shutdowns, rallies, and [words indistinct] on 21 and 22 September. A number of establishments in Yerevan, Leninakan, [names indistinct], including [name indistinct] Rayon, stopped work on 22 September. Transportation services were also disrupted. Additional measures have been put into effect in order to prevent criminal acts.

Military units were also used in addition to the militia organs to implement these measures in Yerevan on 22 September.

The required work is being carried out to maintain public order and ensure adherence to socialist law in the Azerbaijan SSR, particularly in the rayons where Azerbaijani and Armenian citizens live together.

In light of the uneasy situation and the demands of the people, the party and soviet organs in Nagorno-Karabakh, the Armenian SSR, and the Azerbaijan SSR are taking the necessary measures to prevent the escalation of tension and create normal and harmonious work and daily living conditions.

Schools Reopen in Stepanakert

LD2609175488 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 26 Sep 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today, our special correspondent V. Ryazanov reports from Stepanakert.

[Ryazanov] This is how the streets of Stepanakert look today. By comparison with the 1st days of the introduction of the special status and curfew, the streets are more populous. Enterprises ensuring the vital activity of the

town are in operation. At the same time, however, the day shift at the town's industrial enterprises and building sites was not working. A normal work schedule continues in the rurual regions of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO]. But perhaps the main event of the day was the resumption of classes. [video shows street scenes, a soldier speaking to a driver on a town thoroughfare, shots of buildings, open shops, and children gathered with a teacher outside their school]

[S.S. Davidyan, director of Stepanakert Middle School No 1—identified by caption] For the past 2 weeks, almost our entire teachers' collective has conducted a great deal of explanatory work with parents. Heads of classes have visted many people at home; the head of popular education in the town wrote to the local press. And now classes have resumed, but not on a stable footing. One still has to continue this work.

[Z.S. Bakhtanuan, teacher—identified by caption] It is as if the children understand more than us, because they ask us questions for which we often can't find the answer...

[Ryazanov, interrupting] All the same, probably...

[Bakhtanyan, interrupting] We say, don't worry, our problems will be resolved; there is a commission in the (?national) soviet and it will sort things out. We are hoping and our children are hoping.

[A.O. Lachenyan, teacher—identified by caption] As a Communist and as a Soviet citizen I demand the rehabilitation of the national question in our country!

[Ryazanov] In recent days, there have been quite a few meetings between us journalists and the people of Stepanakert. Of course, within the framework of a report, it is impossible to show all interviews, but the general impression is that everyone—the worker, the office worker, the member of the intelligentsia—has the opportunity, in a calmer atmosphere, to weigh the ambiguous and complex situation and to make his or her choice.

Tension Reportedly Easing

LD2609180488 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] [Announcer] At present we have special correspondents working in Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh. Today we have received a report by Leonid Lazarevich and Koryun Khomaryan from Yerevan. Here the situation is still tense and difficult.

[Lazarevich] Tense, indeed tense, but not like it was 3 or 4 days ago. Yes, the meetings are continuing and there are still calls for strikes. But the majority, the vast majority of enterprises, are working. Only 20 enterprises out of 227 are not working, but in fairness it should be said that at 81 enterprises not all the employees went to work. Today there were meetings at enterprises with the leaders of the republic, with all the members of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee. We are at one of them, at Yerevan's Zakavkazkabel Production Association. Comrade Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee visited there.

[Begin Arutyunyan recording] A 100 percent turnout at work. And now, as we talk with the workers, what they are saying is this: We are ready to participate in the restructuring and in all the jobs; just get the transport working regularly, so that we can get to work as normal. [end recording]

[Lazarevich] There was no question the first secretary of the Central Committee would not answer.

[Khomaryan] The workers had many questions they wanted answered. There were questions of a social nature and complaints about the poor working of the retail system and about the lack of a broad range of foodstuffs and consumer goods. Naturally, most of all there were questions connected with the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh and the latest events in Armenia. Comrade Arutyunyan explained the full complexity of the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh to the workers and said that it should not be tackled in a hot-headed fashion; that strike calls, and strikes themselves all the more so, cannot accelerate the resolution of that question. Moreover, they cause substantial damage both to the economy of our republic and to all our people. Comrade Arutyunyan said that we are living in one big country and are obliged to observe its laws, and in that light he noted the inexpediency and even irrationality of calling another session of the republic's Supreme Soviet, especially when the sitting of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on 18 July which examined the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh had passed off in a benevolent and interested atmosphere. An integral program for the socio-economic development of Nagorno-Karabakh has been adopted; a special commission of the Soviet of Nationalities has been created; Comrade Volskiy, a representative of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet, was sent to Nagorno-Karabakh.

[Lazarevich] Since yesterday the republican press, television, and radio have started regularly informing the public about the development of events in Nagorno-Karabakh.

[Announcer] Today the tension has somewhat lessened in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast. The subunits of internal troops and the army units are preventing a repetition of interethnic clashes. The strikes at enterprises in Stepanakert are still continuing. A normal working rhythm is being maintained in rural districts. Studies at schools began today in Stepanakert. We have our correspondent Sergey Omelchenko on the line:

[Omelchenko] Well, this morning, as we were promised by the teachers, the children came to school. Despite the difficult situation which has come about here in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast, children should not suffer. The children should go to school. Well, so the children have returned to school—it is a small but very important step toward the normalization of the situation in the autonomous oblast. The children have returned to school. Parents are feeling calmer. Unfortunately, many enterprises in Stepanakert are not working at the moment. True, the municipal transport system began to operate at full service today. I am sure that most ordinary people are tired of the strike, are ready to go back to work, and agree with those who believe that the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh should be dealt with calmly, without going to extremes.

Yerevan 'Not Calm'

LD2609200788 Moscow TASS in English 1944 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Yerevan September 26 TASS—The situation in the Armenian capital is not calm: Many industrial enterprises do not work, students of higher educational establishments are boycotting classes.

Tens of thousands of people hold rallies in Teatralnaya Square since morning, advancing their old demands: convocation of an emergency session of Armenia's Supreme Soviet (parliament), withdrawal of the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region from Azerbaijan, and guaranteed security for the Armenian population in Azerbaijan.

At the same time, the situation, above all in transport, has improved, as compared with the past week. Municipal services are functioning steadily.

Outwardly, Yerevan does not look like a city on strike. Stores are open, co-operators briskly trade their goods, markets are filled, as always in autumn, with fruits and vegetables grown in the Ararat Valley.

This improvement in the situation has largely been promoted by a recent address of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of Armenia to Communists and working people of the republic, as well as by a resolution of the Presidium of Armenia's Supreme Soviet which voiced concern over the situation, fraught with grave consequences, and mapped out ways out of the crisis.

In the complicated situation, functionaries of the republican party organisation more often visit plants, construction sites, educational establishments, seeking to meet with those who succumbed to emotions and irresponsible appeals.

Today, Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Armenian Communist Party, visited production shops of the Zadavkazkabel Amalgamation, a major industrial enterprise.

The wave of strikes did not bypass the amalgamation either, which lost 15 working days in early July.

By now, its workers have not only made up for lost time but also overfulfilled the plan for the first eight months of 1988 by 1.5 million roubles.

Staff worker R. Khalatyan said that "we denounce the strikes. They are no way to solve urgent problems, and I think far from all workers gave way to emotions leading us away from a constitutional solution of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem".

She described the events in Sumgait, and ethnic strife in general, as outrageous, and said that "sober-minded and healthy forces are capable of turning life in my republic back into normal".

Forecasting the degree of tension of feelings and emotions in today's Armenia is not very promising. However, positive symptoms are already manifest in thoughts and actions of many people in the republic. These symptoms are inspiring hope.

Paper on Yerevan Situation

PM2609200188 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 27 Sep 88 p 3

[Own special correspondents Ye. Vasilkova and N. Ordinyan report: "Yerevan. More Rallies"]

[Text] The Armenian capital is currently enjoying fine, sunny weather. But the mood of Yerevan's inhabitants is far from serene. On the streets you encounter unease, and at times even dismay: Armored vehicles patrol streets lined with cordons of soldiers, mass rallies are again being held in Opera Square.

This latest outburst of emotions is a response to the latest events in Nagorno-Karabakh. But...many speakers are not in possession of concrete information, and they do not know exactly what has taken place in the autonomous oblast.

The scant information provided by the newspapers is not settling people but is provoking questions, and many people rush to the square in the hope of at least hearing some sort of news there.

This is a miscalculation both on the part of journalists and the party and soviet organs, which, alas, have been functioning far from effectively. Time has been lost, the initiative has slipped by, and this situation has been promptly exploited by those who welcome the unrest.

Someone has either heard something or not, or seen something or not—but they rush for the microphone. The atmosphere is becoming charged....

From the platform appeals are heard for support for the brothers from Nagorno-Karabakh. In a single move the people in the crowd throw their fists skyward. And the speakers fly into a rage, and at times irresponsible calls for strikes, for hunger strikes resound....

There and then the ones who have declared a hunger strike have taken up positions in the square. A gray-haired man of about 50 can be seen among them. This is Kh. Stamboltsyan, junior scientific associate of the Institute of Experimental Biology and a "Karabakh" committee activist.

"How long have you been on hunger strike, and for what purpose?" one of us asked him.

"Four days, and I will continue until such time as the Nagorno-Karabakh issue is resolved."

Naturally, such emotional pressure must have an impact. And during the first days following the events in Karabakh many people in the republic stayed away from work. But the efforts of the Communists in enterprises and organizations, of the raykoms and gorkoms, and of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee and Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers appeal to the republic's Communists and working people, which was published in the republic newspapers, played their part. Many enterprises and the city transport system began to operate, and schoolchildren resumed their studies.

...Music could be heard on the streets Saturday and Sunday afternoon: A wedding was being celebrated. The stalls of the fruit and vegetable markets lured passersby with the vivid colors of autumn. It was as if normal life was in progress. But with the onset of evening the microphones in Opera Square were once again switched on, and thousands of voices again chanted: "Karabakh!"...

Yesterday too, Monday, the situation in Yerevan remained filled with inward tension. Some 227 plants and factories were operating fully or partially; the city's other 20 enterprises were idle. Forty thousand people in all stayed away from their work places—about one-third of all Yerevan's workers and employees. Another rally was in progress on Opera Square....

Yerevan Continues 'Tense'

NC2709090288 [Editorial Report] Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian at 0300 GMT on 27 September reports that "the situation in the Armenian capital continues to be tense." The report adds that a "number of production units are not operating." It also notes that "thousands of people gather at Opera Square in the morning" and call for the holding of "an extraordinary session of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet to discuss the transfer of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast from the structure of Azerbaijan SSR, as well as the safety of the Armenian residents in Azerbaijan SSR." The report goes on to say that Suren Arutyunyan, Grant Voskanyan, Fadey Sarkisyan, and a number of other officials visited various production units and met with workers. The report adds that "during the meeting, the workers condemned" the incidents and expressed their readiness to overcome the "consequences of the strikes."

Yerevan Domestic Service at 0525 GMT on 27 September carries a 5-minute review of SOVETAKAN AYASTAN, which reports on the meetings between officials and workers, on measures being taken to improve the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and especially in Stepanakert, and on the statement issued by the Armenian SSR Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Armenian Ministry Statement

NC2709081488 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0700 GMT 27 Sep 88

[Summary From Poor Reception] "Since the implementation of the decree issued by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on 26 July 1988, as well as of the decree issued by the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on 29 July 1988, the republic's internal affairs bodies have arrested 117 (?participants) in unauthorized rallies. Of this number, 59 were arrested in Yerevan, 29 in Leninakan, 22 in Abovyan, 6 in Kirovakan, and 2 in Artashat." The files on these people were prepared "and sent to popular courts for investigation. By September 26, 1988, some 75 of the cases were studied." Many of the files have been sent to workers' collectives for exmination.

Popular courts will take measures to study the cases of participants in rallies, demonstrations, and street marches. Measures are being implemented to normalize public transportation, which has been upset by "hooligan elements." The situation has led the internal affairs organs to "take drastic measures to stop such antipopular acts." Cases are being studied and will be investigated by popular courts.

"The Armenian SSR Ministry of Internal Affairs calls on the residents" to display "common sense and to prevent illegal acts."

Vezirov Addresses Azerbaijan Komsomol Committees

NC2709091888 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] As noted by the 19th all-union party conference, Soviet youth must fully (?identify itself with) the great economic, scientific, technical, and intellectual potential

which has been created during the years of Soviet rule. Furthermore, it must increase this potential many times over and attain the lofty targets of reconstruction.

All this was discussed at a meeting held at the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee with the members of the republic's Komsomol Central Committee Bureau, Baku City Rayon Komsomol committees, and the Komsomol committees of leading industrial establishments and universities in Baku. Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the convoction.

Vezirov said: The Komsomol has always been the party's influential supporter and reserve strength. It will continue to be so. However, the years of stagnation have affected the work of the Komsomol as well. Everything must be done to broaden the participation of the Komsomol members and the young people in the reconstruction of all areas of the republic's social, economic, and moral life.

It was noted in this regard that the party guidance given to the Komsomol must be improved, the powers of the Komsomol committees must be broadened, the interalliance existence (?of the Komsomol) must be further democratized, and the struggle waged by (?the Komsomol organizations) must be further intensified.

The speakers at the meeting pointed to preparations for the 70th anniversary of the All-Union Komsomol and put forward many interesting suggestions.

Vagib Guseynov, chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, participated in the work of the meeting.

Azerbaijan Political, Economic Education Viewed
NC2709092688 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] An open and fruitful discussion took place during the conference held at the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee on the tasks of the party committees and the propaganda aktivs in the drive to radically improve the Marxist-Leninist education system in the Azerbaijan SSR. The conference was held on the eve of Soviet Propaganda Workers Day [tabligatcilar gunu].

The conference marked the commencement of the new educational year in the political and economic education system. The chiefs of the province, city, and rayon party committee propaganda and agitation departments participated in the convocation. Ratib Zaynalov, secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, opened the meeting. Ziyad Samed-zade, chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Economic Department, addressed the conference on the consolidation of productive economic education in light of the main economic reforms. (Saman Nowruzov), first deputy chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department, addressed the meeting on the deepening of reconstruction in the Marxist-Leninist education of the workers.

The participants in the meeting analyzed the initial (?reforms) in the reconstruction of the political and economic education system. They exchanged views on the experience they have gained in the course of their efforts to organize political and economic education and upgrade its scientific and methodical levels, as well as its productive potential.

Afrand Dashdamirov, chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department, summed up the conference.

Tallinn Forum Discusses Interethnic Relations
LD2509132988 Moscow TASS in English 2059 GMT 24 Sep 88

[text] Tallinn September 25 TASS—The democratisation of inter-ethnic relations was the subject of a forum of the peoples of Estonia, which was held here on Saturday and drew 16 delegations who had the same number of members and represented people of various nationalities who reside in the republic's territory.

Speakers at the forum said that the nationalities policy deformations over the years of Stalinist repressions had a negative effect on the socio-economic and cultural development of Estonia. The growth of migration in recent decades and an increase in the share of population of non-indigenous nationalities aroused serious concern among the Estonians.

"The purpose of the forum of the peoples," Kaarel Haav, researcher at the Institute of the History of the party under the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia, said in his speech, "is to promote a return to the Leninist principles of internationalism and to implement the resolution of the 19th All-Union Conference of the CPSU 'On Inter-Ethnic Relations'".

The forum's declaration proclaims the need to support the priority of the Estonian langauage and the Estonian culture in the land historically inhabited by Estonians as well as legislatively to protect the cultural autonomy of ethnic minorities.

"The setting up of a Lettish society of culture became to us the first step in this direction," Juris Putnins, a spokesman for the delegation of the Letts who live in Estonia, told a TASS correspondent. "Such societies have already been set up by Russians, Armenians and Jews. We want to support and develop Lettish culture, to study the ancient and recent history of Latvia and Estonia, to help our fellow-countrymen to master the native language as well as the language of the republic—Estonian. The society, we hope, will help Letts in Estonia

to keep their national identity and will make a contribution to the mutual cultural enrichment of ethnic minorities inhabiting the country, and its part—Estonia. Herein we see one of the goals of large-scale restructuring process which is taking place in the Soviet Union".

Estonian 'Popular Front' Drafts Expanded Program
WA18000006 Tallinn MOLODEZH ESTONII in Russian 19 Aug 88 p 2

[Report by the Editorial Commission for the Program of the Provisional Initiative Center of the Estonian Popular Front (translated from the Estonian): "Draft Common Program of the Estonian Popular Front"]

[Text] Administrative socialism is in a state of crisis. It is only profound democratic changes in the economy, culture, national policy, environmental protection, and all social life that could make hope for a worthy human future possible.

Revolutionary changes have been initiated in the Soviet Union from above. However, it is only the response from below and a social movement acting as the creators of the mechanism of democracy that could make such changes irreversible. The Popular Front has appeared to proclaim the end of a political system which is stagnant and alienated from the people.

The people of Estonia have reawakened to political life.

I. General Principles [subhead]

1. The Popular Front is a political nationwide movement founded on the basis of civic initiative, the content of which is the all-around restructuring of socialist society on the basis of the principles of democracy and humanism, the exercise of the will of the people through elected bodies of representatives, and public control over the activities of state agencies. The Popular Front is a social guarantee for building a state of law which allows the public to act as a political force and excludes manipulation of the people by doing it in their name.

The fundamental objective of the Popular Front is to develop in the people awareness, political standards, and civic activeness and to create a mechanism for democracy to contribute to the creation of a society built on a truly popular system with a balanced economy, a society in which all human rights are guaranteed. The enumeration of the main objectives of the Popular Front, the legal framework and general foundations of its activities, are presented in the Fundamental Document of the Popular Front (the Charter).

The most important programmatic feature is achieving the true political, economic, and cultural sovereignty of the Estonian SSR within the USSR, as a union republic. This means:

a. Dismantling the centralized administrative-bureaucratic system, which was established during the periods of Stalinism and stagnation, and making the USSR a real union of states, on the basis of the Leninist federalist program;

b. Making the soviets competent and legitimate assemblies of people's representatives, exercising full power on their territory;

c. Creating a state of law centered on man, a state in which the people will make the law and in which the state will have obligations and responsibilities to the citizen, as will the citizen to the state;

d. Decentralization of power and granting the necessary legal rights to cities, okrugs, establishments, and enterprises;

e. Conversion of the Estonian SSR to full cost accounting.

These objectives must be accomplished in order to ensure in Estonia the irreversible development of the course of perestroyka, initiated by the progressive segment of the CPSU.

2. The Popular Front supports the aspiration of citizens, social movements, organizations, societies, clubs, labor collectives, and associations in places of residence, etc., aimed at the restructuring of society. Strengthening democratic principles with actions is a prerequisite for participation in the Popular Front. Affiliation with the Popular Front is incompatible with Stalinist-conservative views, the aspiration to preserve the command-order system, and great-power or nationalistic views. Participation in the Popular Front is not restricted in terms of party, religious, or national affiliation.

Although the various social groups may have their specific interests and views on individual matters, the unity of forces supporting perestroyka and their powerful pressure applied against the stagnation system, with a view to limiting it, is a necessary prerequisite. The Popular Front supports mutually advantageous relations with other democratic movements, either extant or being established in the USSR, including particularly movements of small nations.

The purpose of the Popular Front is to have an Estonia in which all of its citizens will live in freedom and safety.

3. The ideological foundations of the Popular Front are universal human values, democracy and pluralism, social justice, internationalism, respect for the rights of all nations, and defense of human rights, the interests of the individual, and legality. The Popular Front is guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the related pacts and constitutional articles which define the rights, freedoms, and obligations of citizens.

The Popular Front backs the principles which radically support the course of perestroyka adopted at the 27th Congress and the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and acts in the interest of implementing the platform that the delegation of the Estonian Communist Party presented at the all-union party conference. The Popular Front considers itself a political means of implementing the concepts adopted at the joint plenum of the boards of the creative unions in the Estonian SSR and the first program for regional cost accounting.

4. Relations between the Popular Front and the public organizations and movements are based on democratic dialogue and cooperation. Cases of pressure exerted on Popular Front authorities will be made public. The Communist Party will influence the Popular Front democratically, through the activities of the party members who have joined the Popular Front.

5. The Popular Front defends the rights of Estonians to remain the basic nation on their age-old territory. To this effect the increased share of the non-Estonian population in the republic must be halted, for even without a mechanical increase Estonians are threatened with the danger of becoming a minority within their own historical homeland. However, it is inadmissible to violate the democratic rights of the citizens of other nationalities.

II. The Political System [subhead]

1. The struggle for the democratization of the political system holds a central position in the activities of the Popular Front. The present authority, which acts on behalf of the people but has become alienated from them, must be replaced by a truly popular self-government. We must implement to the fullest extent the initial meaning of the political slogan "All power to the soviets!" To this effect, we must, first of all, lay a democratic foundation under the Soviet electoral system. The Popular Front calls for the adoption of a new Estonian SSR Law on Elections and will participate in its drafting, and in drafting models for popular self-government. The Popular Front supports the struggle waged by the Soviet authorities against departmental arbitrariness and defends the rights and interests of the voters in nominating candidates and ensuring the democratic nature of electoral procedures and control over the activities of elected deputies.

2. The Popular Front will struggle for granting the Estonian SSR the right, as a sovereign union republic, and the Estonian people the freedom to manage their own affairs, without outside pressure and interference. The constitutional assertion of the Leninist principle of federalism and the unequivocal assertion of the priority of a union republic, as compared to the union as a whole, are of prime importance. In the interest of the union of states, the union republic relinquishes certain functions (partially, the defense of the state and diplomacy) which, however, does not exclude the acknowledgment of its political independence on the part of any state or international organization (United Nations, UNESCO, International Olympic Committee, and others).

3. The Popular Front does not consider as consistent with international democratic experience the monopoly right of any single political organization to administer the state and social life without rights granted by the people on the basis of universal and democratic elections.

4. The Popular Front demands a separation among legislative, executive and judicial powers; every deputy representing the people must have the opportunity to express the wishes of his constituents, so that open competitiveness and debate appear and intensify in political life and in other areas.

The Popular Front struggles for the freedom to nominate candidates and to oppose their appointment and nondemocratic selection in advance; it helps to organize the all-around study of the programs of candidates for deputies and their discussion; it demands elections by electoral district; it initiates or supports the recall of deputies who have received a vote of no-confidence.

5. The Popular Front deems necessary for the sake of the development of democracy to allow the legal activities of any associations, including political, which would make it possible to select among different political platforms those considered best under specific conditions. The Popular Front favors glasnost in all essential matters. If making certain information secret becomes necessary, the respective rules governing such action should be made public.

6. The Popular Front assists in promoting contacts between voters and deputies, upgrading the level of information and competence of society, the submission of proposals and memoranda, the organization of meetings and demonstrations, engaging in preparations for referenda, etc.

7. Honest discussion and tolerance of different opinions is a principle of the Popular Front. The Popular Front deems inadmissible sticking political labels and defaming and degrading opponents. The Popular Front struggles for clarity of political thinking and for cleansing the language of a demagogic-propaganda vocabulary. Political terms should be given a clear and accurate meaning.

In all of this the Popular Front proceeds from the belief that the people have the right to elect leaders who are competent, deserving their trust and expressing the will of the native population of a given area; and that the people have the right to structure the type of political system and way of life which would take into consideration their needs and remain under their influence.

III. Ethics [subhead]

The Popular Front promotes the moral cleansing of society and the introduction of a morality based on the freedom of the individual, restoration of human dignity, tolerance, feelings of conscience, honesty, shame, and justice, and spirituality and mercy.

1. The Popular Front opposes any arbitrariness, injustice, and violence, and does all it can so that the crimes committed against citizens, social groups, and nations, crimes which violate human dignity, are never repeated, deeming impossible in its activities to issue any calls to violent action.

2. The Popular Front demands the revocation of all laws which directly or indirectly restrict civil freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution; it acknowledges the role of the church in the moral improvement of society and the dissemination of universal human values.

3. The Popular Front helps all people living in Estonia to restore and preserve their national, cultural and religious self-respect; it tries to encourage social help to people who need such help the most (children, the old, the disabled), thus offering them the opportunity for a dignified participation in social life.

4. The Popular Front protects ancient customs and popular traditions (dates on the national calendar, names and titles, and so on) as a sign of respect for the national memory; it respects symbolism which expresses the feeling of national idea-mindedness of its own and other nations.

IV. The National Problem [subhead]

1. The Popular Front deems the present condition of national relations in the Soviet Union abnormal and sees the reason for this in the Stalinist national policy. For that reason the Popular Front deems it important that the political history of the USSR be presented as objectively as possible, that the crimes which were committed be recognized and compensation given for the moral and political harm caused by Stalinist national policy. Justice and a feeling of responsibility are the necessary foundations for the course of perestroyka. The Popular Front firmly condemns the propaganda myth which proclaimed the national policy of the Stalinist age and the subsequent period as the Leninist National Policy.

2. The Popular Front deems it necessary that amendments to the USSR Constitution be made guaranteeing the sovereignty of union republics, i.e., their independence in the development of native ethic groups and in solving the problems of the republics on the basis, in particular, of the unhindered development of all Soviet peoples and their languages and cultures. This can be guaranteed by the constitutional acknowledgment of the language of the native ethnic group as the state language of the republic, the establishment of citizenship of a union republic, and the protection of its national symbols.

3. The Popular Front rejects the type of policy of assimilation of nations which strives toward the mechanical mixing of people of different nationalities, including imposing multinational collectives, mixed kindergartens, mixed schools, etc. The Popular Front condemns the great-power internal policy which assists an expedient migration, deprives a person of his feeling of home and feelings for his people and patriotism, and leads to the shaping of a rootless human mass.

4. With a view to normalizing national relations, the Popular Front deems it extremely necessary to undertake a comprehensive study of the reasons for the appearance of inter-nationality tension. An objective study must be made of history and, above all, of the underlining of events which took place in Estonia in 1940. The political, economic, and cultural consequences of these events must be honestly and publicly interpreted.

5. The Popular Front opposes any kind of national injustice and degradation. It condemns the use of national stereotypes in relations among people and the criticizing of people on the basis of national features. Ethics in relations in a multinational society call for understanding and respecting the national feelings of any person and respect for his native tongue, national traditions, and mutual aspiration to surmount difficulties in intercourse created by differences in culture. Nonetheless, member of other ethnic groups who live in a union republic should understand and acknowledge the right of the native ethnic group to self-determination, i.e., the right to preserve and develop on its own age-old land its historically established culture and way of life, and to protect the preservation of its nation and language and to decide the fate and way of life of its own land.

To the native ethnic group in a union republic, the national problem is one of historical destiny. To a member of another ethnic group who lives in a union republic, the national problems are a matter of his personal destiny. The Estonian SSR is a national republic. Acting above all as a defender of the interests of the Estonian nation, it will be able to ensure the defense of the interests of all other ethnic groups which live here.

The Popular Front explains to the members of other ethnic groups the general democratic content of the principle of national self-determination, i.e., the need to acknowledge the sovereignty of all Soviet nations as one of the foundations for the democratic development of the multinational state. The Popular Front promotes in people living in Estonia and belonging to other ethnic groups feelings of solidarity with the Estonian national movement and thus contributes to the growth of the cultural self-awareness of people belonging to any other ethnic group and to providing extensive opportunities for national development of the basis of cultural autonomy.

V. The Economy [subhead]

The people of Estonia aspire to have an economy with a human face, balanced from the point of view of ecology and resources. This calls for eliminating the old command-administrative bureaucratic economy with all of its obstruction mechanisms, such as departmental monopoly and a "colonial" economic policy, a politicized centralism, impersonal ownership, etc. As both worldwide and domestic experience prove, commodity-monetary relations, a variety of forms of ownership, economic democracy, and cost accounting will restore the type of producers who display a proprietary attitude toward work and full shelves.

The Popular Front considers economic development a means of achieving social objectives. In precisely the same way economic planning must be converted from self-seeking into a means of and support for attaining human objectives.

1. The Popular Front supports the struggle waged by the leading authorities and enterprises in the Estonian SSR for transferring economic management from union and union-republic to republic jurisdiction. The competence of the republic authorities must include setting prices and rates, taxation, wages, and financial-credit policy. The Popular Front deems it necessary that the right to use and protect natural resources, including the coastal area, belong to the union republic. This will make it possible to proceed from the local ecological situation in regional economic development.

2. The Popular Front proceeds from the fact that the interests of the development of our republic and people are the most consistent with the concept of regional cost accounting of the Estonian SSR (first), the implementation of which is a necessary prerequisite and a structural component of the sovereignty of the Estonian SSR. The PF supports—through radical actions if necessary—the conversion of the Estonian SSR to full cost accounting.

3. In the opinion of the Popular Front, the development of economic democracy and feelings of proprietorship are a necessary component of overall democratization, for which reason the Popular Front supports the plurality of forms of ownership, including the free development of cooperative, personal, and private ownership. A feeling of ownership can appear only if the person is actually the owner. Private ownership of means of production cannot and should not be considered a temporary economic measure. It requires constitutional guarantees. The Popular Front supports transferring state enterprises to labor collectives, cooperatives, public organizations or individuals, on a contractual basis.

4. The Popular Front considers correct the type of procedure in managing the national economy in which governmental institutions (committees, ministries) would be relieved from direct management of economic activities. The economic organizations must act independently, on the basis of full cost accounting, in accordance with the law and on contracts and agreements they have concluded. The Popular Front supports variety in economic activities, including the right of an enterprise to freely join a syndicate, association, etc.

5. The Popular Front supports economic decentralization and deconcentration, including territorial dispersal and the creation of small enterprises on the basis of large ones. Inefficient enterprises and establishments must be closed down and the administrative apparatus must be radically reduced.

6. The Popular Front considers important the multifaceted development of external economic relations of the republic, trade, and cooperation, including the creation of mixed and joint enterprises with other states and union republics. Such activities should be based on the favorable geographic location of the Estonian SSR.

7. The Popular Front deems it necessary to raise economic science and education to contemporary standards and to develop international cooperation in this area (exchange and practical training by university students, scientists and specialists, and joint research). A republic program for the advancement and retraining of cadres should be drafted.

8. The Popular Front condemns a policy which has led to the destruction of the historically developed rural culture and the Estonian village. The organization of competent authorities for self-government and the creation of favorable socioeconomic conditions which would enhance the peasantry and rural life, including granting land for permanent use, are of prime significance. Particular care must be shown for areas which need nationwide support and protection.

The Popular Front opposes the administrative-bureaucratic management of agriculture and defends the right of the peasant to solve by himself production, procurement, and marketing problems.

9. The Popular Front favors the defense of the consumer and supports the creation of a society which would defend consumer interests and struggle for an economic and social policy based on the interests of the consumer. Quality standards of food products must be made public; decline in the quality of consumer goods must be stopped and efficient quality control instituted.

10. The Popular Front insists on the systematic study of changes in living standards and the publication of results (population income and expenditures, price index, etc.). The Popular Front struggles for preventing any violations of social justice in the application of the law on pensions and in the price reform.

11. The Popular Front supports the nonspecialized industry of the Estonian SSR. Industry should be oriented above all toward science-intensive production and the expedient utilization of local raw materials and manpower in the interest of the economy of the Estonian SSR.

12. The old construction policy is inconsistent with contemporary requirements. The Popular Front supports the type of construction policy which would create and preserve a living environment worthy of man.

13. In the area of labor resources, the policy of establishments and enterprises must be public. The Popular Front opposes the unjustified introduction of manpower within Estonia and supports the closing down of inefficient jobs.

14. The Popular Front demands of the Estonian SSR Council of Ministers the publication in the press of all materials pertaining to the making and execution of the state budget and all republic plans, so that the people can actually participate in their discussion.

VI. Social Justice and Well-Being [subhead]

1. The Popular Front is striving for every citizen of the Estonian SSR to have the opportunity to maximally apply his forces under conditions of competitiveness in any freely chosen area of activity, to earn just wages, and to formulate socially useful ideas, technical solutions, and initiative and enterprise. The old equalization must be eliminated. All privileges stemming from affiliation nominclature, without exception, must be eliminated in the use of social consumption funds and services (including health care and trade).

2. The Popular Front deems it just that the state ensure for all citizens of the Estonian SSR a minimal wage worthy of man and, in the area of wages, take inflation into consideration.

3. The purpose of the Popular Front is the all-around development of all areas of the Estonian SSR; the elimination of the economic, social, and cultural lagging of outlying areas and suburbs; the elimination of the privileged development of Tallinn; and the upgrading of the potential of other regional centers in the republic. The elimination of inequality among individual areas and between town and country in the satisfaction of social and cultural needs and the distribution of food and consumer goods is of prime significance.

4. The Popular Front strives for the equal dissemination of information in the various areas in Estonia (accessibility to television channels, open foreign contacts) while at the same time preserving the cultural originality of the various historical districts in Estonia.

5. The Popular Front shares the serious concern of the public for the lagging of our health care system and its alienation from the people. In order to correct the situation, a corresponding republic program must be drafted and applied.

6. The Popular Front deems present policy in the area of the struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism inefficient and degrading human dignity. A long-term serious program of activities must be drafted and implemented, using the experience of the sobriety movement.

7. It is necessary to enhance further the dignity of the family and to acknowledge its equal status with other basic social institutions. The Popular Front calls for equalizing the raising of children with love of other types of paid work. In appointing wages and pensions, work on the education of children must also be taken into consideration. The Popular Front defends the interest of the family and deems necessary the establishment of a fund for young families.

The Popular Front considers it necessary to ensure the full equality of women based on the right of women to choose for themselves their own suitable social role. Society must provide conditions for the free implementation of the role of motherhood. Population increases cannot be achieved, and the problem of women's employment and other painful problems cannot be solved with the help of vulgarizing appeals.

8. The Popular Front sees as natural the ties among different generations, their fruitful dialogue and cooperation, based on age-group interests. The young must be freed from unnecessary supervision and the rigidity of the educational system, and relations among generations must be based on setting personal examples and tolerance and not on coercion and force.

9. The Popular Front struggles for peace. It supports the proclamation of the entire Baltic area and the Baltic Sea as part of a nuclear-free North and the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from the territory of the Estonian SSR.

VII. Human Rights [subhead]

1. The Popular Front calls for recognizing as the foundation of the rights of USSR citizens the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the pact on economic, social, and cultural rights, and the pact on civil and political rights. At the same time, the Popular Front deems necessary the recognition of the optional protocol on the pact on civil and political rights, and calls for the publication of reports on the implementation of this pact, which was submitted by the USSR to the United Nations.

2. The Popular Front demands the application of legal and practical guarantees of the inviolability of the individual, the home, and correspondence, and the secrecy

of telephone conversations. Any persecution and restriction of civil rights for political convictions must be considered illegal. Individuals who have suffered from such persecution should have the real possibility of seeking redress in court, in defense of their rights.

The Popular Front supports the creation of a constitutional court, the tasks of which would include control over the consistency between all legal acts and the interpretation of individual cases through the Constitution, and for all constitutional rights to be backed by corresponding legal rules.

3. The Popular Front demands that every citizen be given the right of access to any information collected on his subject by any institution and be given legal protection against the dissemination of false information about him.

No one should have to prove his innocence. A court acquittal in the absence of proof must be considered a normal phenomenon and should not discredit the activities of the investigative authorities. Before a sentence has been passed, the citizen must retain the prerogative of benefiting from full civil rights; his detention in the course of the preliminary investigation should be as brief as possible and should not restrict his other rights. An individual sentenced by a court in the Estonian SSR should serve his sentence on the territory of the republic.

4. The Popular Front demands that every citizen have the right to be acquainted with information concerning his country and people, including statistical data (such as data on the crime rate, health care, or other statistics), results of sociological studies and surveys of public opinion, accurate maps and charts, whatever their scale, archive data, etc.

5. The Popular Front demands that the mass repressions of 1941 and 1949 and the other crimes of Stalinism be proclaimed crimes against mankind, and the names of their immediate perpetrators and active executors be made public. The lists of victims of Stalinism must be made public and their memory perpetuated; moral and material compensations must be paid to all victims.

6. The Popular Front demands a review of the trials of all individuals sentenced as per articles 68 and 194[1] [as published] of the Criminal Code of the Estonian SSR and their analogues, and the rehabilitation of individuals who were sentenced for defending views and opinions which are now approved by present state policy. The Popular Front demands the abrogation of articles 68 and 194[1] [as published] of the Criminal Code of the Estonian SSR, for in a democratic society in peacetime no conceptional statements should be grounds for the use of (criminal) repressive measures. The Criminal Code of the Estonian SSR must be revised and made consistent with the principles of a democratic state based on law. The Popular Front deems necessary the creation of a permanent commission of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet which would ensure control over the legality of activities in the Estonian SSR of military organizations, state security organs, the prosecutor's office, and the militia. The Popular Front demands that legislation which regulates contacts among individuals, the border and customs systems, and passport regulations be made consistent with international practices.

7. The Popular Front supports securing in practice the full freedom of conscience for all citizens of the Estonian SSR.

8. The Popular Front does not consider the existing procedure for military services as consistent with contemporary conditions. The Popular Front calls for offering the draftees the possibility of performing their military obligations in their own republic with the use of their own language, alongside Russian. The Popular Front supports the proposal of making mandatory labor service for young people who, because of religious or other convictions, refuse military service. Secondary schools must be demilitarized and secondary school students freed from military training; university students must be freed from active military service and military training in VUZ's must be reformed.

The Popular Front proceeds from the belief that all of this would contribute to increasing the prestige of the armed forces and the defense capability of the state.

9. The Popular Front calls for the lifting of preliminary censorship.

VIII. Culture [subhead]

The variety of cultures is the wealth of mankind and a firm guarantee for the existence of nations. The objective of the Popular Front is an independent and originally developing national culture, open to any opportunity, freely accepting or rejecting influences, preserving continuity, and having a future.

The objective of the Popular Front is for all ethnic groups who live in Estonia to have a feeling of confidence on the basis of their national culture. True internationalism, the main content of which is national tolerance, stems from knowledge of and respect for one's national culture.

1. The Popular Front supports the principle according to which decisions pertaining to any national culture are within the competence of the authorities of that republic; it calls for the decentralization of all cultural life and publishing and for abolishing monopoly administration of culture.

2. The Popular Front accepts and defends the view that the cultural activities of Estonians living in other countries are part of the national culture and struggles for the possibility of unhindered intercourse with compatriots living outside Estonia.

In a democratic society free intercourse with all cultures in the world (including the free exchange of information, personal contacts, and cooperation) is natural.

3. The Popular Front calls for a broad field of activity of the Estonian language as the main bearer of national culture and supports its restoration in all areas of social life.

4. The Popular Front considers past political life a natural structural component of national culture and struggles for the truthful and just interpretation of Estonian history. The role of all personalities who have been part of Estonian history must be properly assessed. The Popular Front considers the archives a national property which must be handled by the republic's authorities.

5. The Popular Front demands the development of a sovereign system of education in the Estonian SSR and supports the implementation of the program of reform of general education schools, developed by the pedagogical public. The Popular Front considers it extremely necessary that state appropriations for education be increased.

6. The Popular Front calls for the recognition of national sciences and for granting a special status to the natural and social sciences which study Estonia and its people, among the sciences which are being developed. All scientists must directly link some of their activities to the development of the national culture (including scientific terminology). The Popular Front finds that the requirement to submit all dissertation manuscripts in the Russian language for their defense conflicts with the Leninist national and cultural policy.

7. The Popular Front calls for members of all ethnic groups living in Estonia (Russian, Finnish, Ukrainian, Belorussian, Jewish, Polish, etc.) to have the possibility to practice cultural autonomy. The Popular Front supports the development of education, social life, exchange of information, and amateur and professional art in the native language, within the framework of cultural autonomy.

8. The Popular Front assists in promoting contacts among all residents of Estonia on the basis of reciprocal cultural interests. It supports the exchange of truly international cultural values and helps members of other ethnic groups living in Estonia to become an active part of Estonian cultural life.

IX. The Future [subhead]

In accepting political pluralism as the foundation for democracy, the Popular Front considers itself the starting point for the establishment of possible new political associations. Setting as its objective the building of a new Estonia founded on truly popular rule, the Popular Front realizes that in the course of the development of a democratic society a popular movement based on civil initiative could lose its place in the future development of Estonia. In such a case, by decision of the People's Congress, the Popular Front could terminate its activities, as stipulated in its charter, and transfer its rights to other democratic institutions in Estonian social life.

Views, corrections, and supplements to said draft should be submitted to the regional representatives or sent to the following address: 200 010, Tallinn, Post Office Box 572 "Program."

Crimean Nuclear Plant Project Threatened

LD2609162488 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] News that has long been awaited in the republic arrived from Crimea literally on the eve of this broadcast. A working group of the authoritative commission headed by Academician Velikhov, having carried out comprehensive research at the site of the Crimean nuclear power station which is under construction, has come to the conclusion that the high level of seismic activity in the east of Crimea excludes the possibility of siting nuclear power stations there. Our correspondent Anatoliy Polonskiy reports on the details:

[Polonskiy] The working group has evaluated the real seismicity in the area of the nuclear power station at 10 points, while the project for the power station was oriented toward 6 points only. Now it has become quite obvious that it would be an enormous crime to complete the construction of the dangerous power engineering project and put it into use, and at an all-union spa, at that.

I am talking with Vladimir Grigoryevich Pivovarov, head of the Department of Solid State Physics of Simferopol State University:

[Pivovarov] We now have a clear picture for virtually all the parameters connected with construction of the nuclear plant. We have a good idea of what will happen in the Crimea region if the nuclear plant works as designed; and we have a pretty good idea of what the situation would be in the event of an accident. The [word indistinct] of winds in the Kazantip area, where the nuclear plant is being built, is such that in the course of 3 or 4 days, the whole of Crimea would be covered in radioactive dust, as well as the Azov and Black Seas. The Black Sea coast of the Caucasus and the Crimea would be destroyed, and they would be taken out of circulation for several decades.

[Polonskiy] But why couldn't the authors of the project foresee this? And why do the people building the station not want to recognize it?

[Pivovarov] The decision to build the nuclear plant was made more than 15 years ago when there were no particular reason to be worried. And it was this feeling that nothing could go wrong that made it possible to make the decision to build the nuclear plant so lightly. So

there is another question: Why are they not halting construction? Well, of course, there is a very simple explanation for this—a certain amount of money has been spent, and someone has to make the decison to halt construction.

[Polonskiy] So perhaps someone should be punished?

[Pivovarov] Yes, that is of course a very important point, it is quite a lot of money for both our state and for Atomenergo. The people who made these decisions should definitely be punished.

Readers' Questions on Chernobyl Answered

PM2609132888 Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 39, 24-30 Sep 88 (Signed to Press 22 Sep 88) p 8

[Answers to readers' questions by A. Kovalenko, chief of the "Kombinat" production association information and international relations department, and A. Karasyuk, leader of the analysis and information processing group, on readers' letters page—first paragraph is editorial introduction; letter writers not identified]

[Text] The editorial office is still receiving letters from readers with questions about the elimination of the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES. Some of them are answered by A. Kovalenko, chief of the "Kombinat" production association information and international relations department, and A. Karasyuk, leader of the analysis and information processing group.

[Question] Will the land in the 30-km zone around the Chernobyl AES be restored to use in the economy?

[Answer] Last year we finally got rid of the most polluted sectors of that zone. The sector around the AES itself, for a radius of 5-10 km, will remain closed for a long time. It is planned to set up a testing ground and laboratory here to study the peculiarities of different radiobiological and physical problems.

As for the remaining territory, in principle the population could return. But the medics think people should not return to these places for another 2-3 years. That time will be needed to recheck the data obtained and continue observations of flora and fauna. But as of 1988 this territory is gradually being introduced into national economic use.

[Question] Please tell us about the utilization of land in agricultural production after decontamination. What do plant cultivation experiments show?

[Answer] Radiobiological science has already accumulated substantial factual material indicating diverse reactions by plant organisms to the effects of ionizing radiation. For instance, the stepping up of the growth and development of plants (radiation stimulation), their resistance, and so forth have been noted.

A radiobiological laboratory has been set up in Pripyat, which, along with its hothouse facilities, is to become a science and production base for carrying out a large number of special programs that are being drawn up with the participation of institutes of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the USSR Gosagroprom.

In the hothouse facilities a production base is also being set up for commercial seed growing of vegetables and industrial crops with a view to the production of high quality seed for sale in the national economy. This creates the prerequisites for setting up a large commercial potato seed growing base in the region of the Chernobyl AES 30-km zone. The top quality seed potatoes thus obtained can be sent to other regions with no radiation risk to the population, since the already small concentration of radionuclides in the seed potato tubers will become many thousand times lower in the course of cultivation of commercial potatoes in other regions of the country. A similar approach can be applied to the cultivation of other agricultural crops for seed. Careful dosimetric monitoring of all crop farming products has been established.

[Question] What is background radiation? What dose of radiation is dangerous and what is not?

[Answer] Background radiation is created by cosmic radiation and natural radioactive substances occurring in the human body, the everyday objects around us, and objects in the environment. The value of background radiation is not constant, and it is equivalent to approximately 100 millirems a year (0.011 millirems an hour).

With radiation doses of the order of 10 rems, no changes are observed in the organs and tissues of the human organism, and it is only with a radiation dose of 75 rems that insignifant, short-term changes in the composition of the blood can be clinically detected. At 450 rems there is severe radiation sickness, and at 100 rems a low level of development of slight radiation sickness. The 30 rem level represents radiation during a stomach X-ray (local); 25 rems is the permitted accidental irradiation for personnel (on one occasion); 10 rems is the permitted accidental irradiation for the population (on one occasion); 5 rems is the permitted irradiation for personnel in normal conditions over a year. A tooth X-ray is 3 rems; fluorography is 370 millirems. An aircraft flight of 2,400 km is 1 millirem; watching teleivison for 3 hours a day for a year is 0.5 millirems; and watching one hockey match on television is 1 microrem.

[Question] How many years will the "sarcophagus" remain?

[Answer] There have recently been reports in the press that the "cover" will remain for hundreds of years, and that we are leaving it to our descendants to resolve questions of moving it elsewhere or rendering it entirely harmless. That is absolutely untrue. The designers of the "sarcophagus," in designing it, worked on the assumption that the criterion for the life of any nuclear power facility is the duration of operation of a nuclear reactor, that is, 30-40 years. Therefore it is for our generation to eliminate the "cover." Scientists are now working on this problem.

Ukrainian Party Buildings Given for Health Care
AU2609160488 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 21 Sep 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "In the Interests of the Working People"]

[Text] A traditional feature of our society's humaneness is the constant attention paid by the party and the government to improvements in medical services for war and labor veterans, internationalist servicemen, physically disabled children, and other categories of the population. As reported in the republic and local press, last August the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee adopted the decision to place some sanatoriums and medical establishments of the Fourth Main Administration under the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Health at the disposal of health service organs.

Work in this direction is continuing. Some 52 administrative buildings are now being turned into social sphere facilities, and health services will get 32 of them. In the current year alone, party organs will hand over their 3 new and 11 vacated buildings. Before 1990, the party organs plan to hand over 38 more new buildings and 23 vacated by administrative organs. For example, medical establishments will move to a new building of Lvov Obkom, to the recreational base of Ivano-Frankovsk Oblispolkom in Yaremche, to premises of Simferopol Raykom and the Khmelnitskiy Oblast Agro-Industrial Committee, and others.

The Ukrainian Trade Unions Council has handed over to Dnepropetrovsk Oblast health services the "Dneprovskiy" rest house with 878 beds and a polyclinic receiving 1,000 patients daily. This complex has now been pegged to be used for the treatment of internationalist soldiers. A modern polyclinic built by trade unions for physical treatment in Kiev city has been placed at the disposal of the Kiev Gorispolkom's health service administration.

In the republic's oblasts, possibilities are continuing to be examined to use edifices built for administrative and public purposes and buildings that are to be vacated as social sphere facilities.

Environmental Protection 'Completely Hopeless'
PM2709094588 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 23 Sep 88 p 1

[I. Mosin report under rubric "Notes From USSR Supreme Soviet Commission Session": "Nature Cannot Wait"]

[Text] The emission of harmful substances into the atmosphere is being reduced only extremely slowly. Discharges into the air in nine cities led to the maximum permissible concentration being exceeded 50-fold. An extremely serious situation has taken shape in the region of the Astrakhan gas condensate complex. In a 12-km zone in which some 30,000 people live, the level of harmful substances in the atmosphere is more than 5 times above the permissible threshold. The quality of water is tending to deteriorate. This summer beaches had to be closed in Odessa, Palanga, Pyarnu, Sukhumi, Poti, and other cities in the country.

Yu. Sedunov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology, painted an alarming picture of the current ecological situation in our country to deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet Preparatory Commission for Environmental Protection and Rational Use of Natural Resources.

He once again provided documentary confirmation, as it were, that the strong public feeling raging around ecological problems is no accident. Judging by his report—and similar warnings have been given by competent scientists—we are reaching a point in our relationship with nature beyond which irreversible ecological processes begin. There is still time to put the brake on these negative processes. But are we making the most of this time? What kind of cardinal measures for next year is the USSR Gosplan offering for deputies' consideration to sharply change the ecological situation in our country?

Before the start of the session, I studied the draft plan drawn up by the USSR Gosplan. It is clear from this document that this year the situation with environmental protection is, to be frank, completely hopeless....

"The construction of USSR Council of Ministers environmental protection projects," the draft says, "has fallen seriously behind schedule: The Kazakh SSR assimilated 26 percent of the year's capital investment quota in the first 6 months of 1988, the Moldavian SSR assimilated 32 percent, and the Azerbaijan SSR assimilated 27 percent. The RSFSR Council of Ministers fulfilled only 26 percent of the plan for the first half of this year for the commissioning of water purification units."

Paradoxical though it may seem, judging by this document, next year the ecological situation in the country will deteriorate even further. I quote: "The USSR Ministry of the Timber Industry and USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry have

made virtually no provision for commissioning purification units. As a result, instead of reducing the discharge of polluted effluent, in 1989 enterprises belonging to these ministries will, in fact, increase the volume by 517 million and 155 million cubic metres respectively." How many rivers, reservoirs, and beaches will be contaminated next year by the actions of these ministries?

It is quite clear that, despite various resolutions—including some from directive bodies—public protests, and the sharp deterioration in the ecological situation, ministries and departments still regard environmental protection as a minor issue. There is a lot of talk at all levels, but no real action. Unfortunately—and we must be soberly aware of this—enterprises' transition to economic accountability is making the ecological situation even worse. Funds are mainly being spent on social and cultural projects, retooling production, and increasing wages. Is there anything left for nature's needs? Particularly when you consider that there are some enterprises which cannot even scrape enough money together for wages.

The draft plan shows that this process has essentially already begun. Ministries are trying to allocate as few funds as possible for environmental protection. Their efforts are mainly designed to distract attention and appease higher monitoring authorities and public opinion. There is no other explanation for the cases cited in the draft plan:

"The USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Industry and USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry have projected an increase in the discharge of harmful substances into the atmosphere as a result of exhaust gases, instead of a decrease.

"The USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry, USSR Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production, USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, and USSR Ministry of the Medical and Microbiological Industry have not made full provision for reaching the targets for the protection of the atmosphere in 1989 that have been set by resolutions from directive bodies." You can imagine what lies behind the bland phrase "not made full provision."

The fact that departments have no intention of changing their ecological policy came across particularly clearly in the speeches made by representatives of the "dirtiest" ministries invited to the commission session. In response to deputies who asked when his ministry was going to stop poisoning fish, Ye. Dovzhok, chief of the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum Industry Main Science and Technology Administration, cynically replied:

"Yes, fish are dying, but the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry has no information that it is responsible for the deaths."

Is there really any need to comment?

V. Bykov, USSR minister of the medical and microbiological industry, immediately admitted all criticism addressed to him as just. But then he skilfully laid the blame for his ministry's activity on the scientists who are unable to come up with clean, waste-free technology and on the construction workers who do not want to have anything to do with building purification units. You cannot bomb the economy with the help of ecology—this was the sense of his vigorous speech. But what if it is an immoral economy poisoning the environment and damaging people's health?

Those who tried to defend departmental interests came in for some strong criticism from deputies. They also seriously reproached representatives of the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and the State Committee for Environmental Control, which are supposed to be protecting the environment. A striking feature is that for some years we have been talking about replacing administrative edict methods of economic management, but the state protectors of the environment still rely on words like "intensify," "call to account," and "increase." Naturally, with this kind of spineless attitude, enterprises have polluted and will continue to pollute the environment.

After all, the size of the fines presently levied on enterprises is a mere pinprick. The solution is clear, and the experience of many countries has long confirmed its effectiveness: We must introduce fines for environmental pollution that give enterprises an interest in protecting the environment rather than polluting it. Local soviets must be empowered to impose these fines and, moreover, on whatever scale they consider necessary. And all "fine" money should remain in the local treasury.

A decisive breakthrough must be secured in the ecological problem to the advantage of our forests, rivers, fields, seas, and, ultimately, people. We need this breakthrough right now. Nature cannot and will not wait.

Maritime Kray 'Closed' Zone Status Abolished

PM2709091388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 1

[G. Alimov report under the rubric "New Thinking": "Maritime Kray: Border Zone Status Abolished. The RSFSR Council of Ministers Has Abolished the Maritime Kray's Status as Closed Border Zone"]

[Text] For the few people who had previously been able to enter Maritime Kray on passes, by permits, or on invitations from relatives, it will take some time to get

accustomed to the new situation. Even quite recently it was impossible to simply approach the railroad or Aeroflot ticket office without all kinds of permits to buy tickets....

But now what will happen is this. This superb corner of the "great land of ours" is being opened up, including all the Sea of Japan shoreline. The territory is large—165,900 square km.

The question of the border zone and the procedure for entry to it, in the opinion of A. Goncharov, chief of the USSR MVD Passport Department, created difficulties for everyone.

"Your newspaper has posed these questions more than once," he said. "We also understand that the time has come to resolve them. Even today we cannot always satisfy people's requests to travel to some closed region. So their chance to move about freely is limited. The readers probably remember the well-known IZVESTIYA article entitled 'Visa For Wife,' in which a wife needed permission for a trip from Sakhalin to see her husband in Maritime Kray. Now it can be said that this problem no longer exists."

A. Goncharov believes that until recently few people believed that the existing procedure would change. Nonetheless, the USSR MVD discussed this question jointly with interested departments. As a result everyone came to the conclusion that the restriction on entry to border zones should be gradually revised and that some of these zones should be reduced or narrowed. And here is the result: The first decision, on Maritime Kray, has been adopted.

Asked which regions will be next, A. Goncharov noted:

"The question is being studied. I can only say: It is primarily a question of people's mass leisure zones and health resorts."

The RSFSR Council of Ministers decision came into force immediately—from the moment the document was adopted. It is possible that the appropriate instructions to departments, including the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Civil Aviation, have still not arrived. But as A. Goncharov stated, the ticket offices are obliged to draw up travel documents for Maritime Kray in just the same way as, for example, for Leningrad.

A new page is opening up in the history of Maritime Kray, which was established in October 1938 and today has a population exceeding 2 million. The foreign media are now devoting a great deal of attention to the Soviet Far East. They use the word "revival" to describe the processes taking place there. They write with great astonishment that the Nakhodka local authorities together with economists from Moscow are preparing three programs which foresee turning the territories adjoining the port into a special economic zone. But there is nothing surprising or unexpected here. Speaking in Krasnoyarsk, M.S. Gorbachev stated directly that we are thinking about setting up in the Far East special "joint enterprise zones" where a preferential system of customs duties, of licensing foreign economic deals, and of taxation would operate and where there would be a reduced payment for natural and manpower resources.

Great prospects are opening up in the Far East. But a great deal has to be done to implement them, including reviving the Siberian spirit of enterprise. Specialists note that the imbalance in the development of the region's economy is reaching great proportions. Social questions are acute. People who come here to live are forced to leave after a while because of the lack of amenities in everyday life. The situation in recent years has begun to improve. But life demands faster progress.

Restructuring in Legal Procedures Proposed

LD2909063188 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0530 GMT 27 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow, 27 Sep (TASS)—TASS correspondent Nikita Demitov writes:

A considerable reduction in the application of the death penalty, removal of deportation and exile from the criminal legislation, reduction of the terms of deprivation of liberty for adolescents up to the age of 16, and broader application of fines instead of criminal legislation—these are some of the changes in the fundamental criminal legislation now being drafted in the USSR.

One of the main tasks of the Soviet bench is the defense of the rights of citizens. Of the 3 million civil cases annually examined by the USSR courts, a lion's share is concerned precisely with this.

Under the proposed reform there will also be a change in the dispensation of justice. In the system of a socialist state based on the rule of law, an important role is given to the legal profession as an autonomous organization for providing legal assistance. The advocate should be given more rights: In criminal law proceedings he will be able to take part in the preliminary investigation from the moment the charge is made, the arrest; in civil ones, he will be able to take part in preparing the case for examination in court.

A new criminal procedure law is being drafted. It envisions changes in certain procedural practices. Its aim is to strengthen guarantees of equality of the sides in judicial proceedings. It envisages liability—including criminal liability—for interference in the course of law by outsiders, including by officials. The "Bill on the Status of Judges in the USSR" determines that judges will in the future be elected by higher soviets or by the presidiums of the supreme soviets of the republics for a long term of 10 years instead of the present 5. It is

proposed to institute a qualifying collegium of judges who will examine candidates for judicial posts and provide testimonials for their colleagues.

Glasnost, Restructuring Require 'Courage'
PM2609150188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 1

[Andrey Chernenko article under the rubric "A Frank Discussion": "The Moment of Courage"]

[Text] It is true that the scalpel of glasnost which is cutting through the calloused skin of silence and exposing the truth such as it really is, rather than what one might wish it to be, is everything but inoffensive.

However, it would be an unforgivable mistake not to note one aspect which at first glance seems highly paradoxical. Those who view this process of curing ourselves from double-think and half-truths with pain and often with hostility include not only those whom glasnost and the processes of democratization are depriving of the halo of infallibility and of material and social privileges. I am trying to find the key to the riddle which is being posed by other people, people who restructuring and the economic and political reforms are placing on the highest rung among citizens, in the category of the organizers of life, as it were.

"In my vicinity, on 'Zybino' farm, capitalism is being reborn," S. Poluektov, a worker from Tula, writes in his letter. "Machinery, livestock, and land has been distributed among families.... Some families now earn more than the whole of our fitters' team taken together. If this carries on, socialism will disappear altogether. If this is restructuring and democratization then I am categorically opposed to it. It is quite true that under Stalin no one was supposed to own anything; under Brezhnev people thought one thing, said another, and did yet another thing. But life was the same for everyone and there were no millionaires. There may have been shortcomings but they were not due to an incorrect line, merely to a lack of discipline."

The letter is several pages long. And it is absolutely sincere. It would not be so bad if there were only one such letter. But it is not the only one....

What is the reason for this? What, in the 4th year of restructuring, is the cause of the nostalgia for an "equal," if meager, existence? For social passiveness, which has turned hundreds of thousands of very able people into hack-workers and thrown us back to unenviable positions as regards the standard of workers' professional training?

"I am 90 years old," Muscovite M. Gavrishin writes. "I have seen a lot in the course of my life. I have seen, for instance, the establishment of cooperatives under Lenin when people, willing to work hard, got together and, with their own funds, formed artels and bought up premises and old equipment.... They saturated the market with the most varied goods from children's toys to electric motors. Yes, electric motors! I also remember how they disappeared again. How those who were successful were forced out. How Lenin's ideas about the cooperative system were discredited. I am afraid lest the bureaucrats and administrators of today stifle the cooperative movement and reduce to nothing all the reforms outlined by the party. My long life has taught me that there is nothing worse than political cowards and the lack of courage to rid ourselves of stereotypes. What the present generation needs is more courage. Otherwise parasitic bureaucrats and workers used to receiving money for second-rate work will win the upper hand over common sense."

I have pursued a clear aim in citing these two letters here, that of juxtaposing two types of political thinking. Restructuring, revolution, and renewal are very, very demanding processes. They brook no half-measures, not in world outlook nor in the economic sphere. However, the problem lies precisely in the fact that, over the past 2-3 years, having moved from silence to glasnost, from suppressing the truth to exposing the truth, from spiritual leveling to a high degree of consciousness, we have by no means managed to achieve a radical psychological breakthrough within ourselves.... We have become more demanding, more uncompromising. However, while making demands we forget and sometimes even deliberately repress the simple truth that we can only give away what is ours.

"Social guarantees must have not only constitutional but also material backing. And by virtue of this alone, they have to be earned rather than given away," A. Gubanov, a Moscow fitter, writes in his letter to PRAVDA. "The radical economic reforms frighten the loafer and the bureaucrat precisely because they are ridding our life of the parasitical factor of providing these guarantees 'free of charge.' They stipulate that these guarantees must be earned."

But what if you are not used to this? What if you have forgotten how to do this, or rather, if you were made to forget it? What if your attitude is "I am quite happy with R120 as long as I am left alone"?

We have barely begun to understand that what demands courage is not just the struggle for the introduction of innovations which, incidentally, has always been waged, both during the tragic times of our history and during the years when our economy was driven toward bankruptcy and initiative was stifled. Courage is also needed to reassess our existence in this complex world which requires us to resolve tasks which we have simply never been taught to handle....

Suddenly we have a situation where unless you are disabled or feeble with age your well-being and prosperity will depend on the result of your efforts and not merely on your presence at work. And it is for this reason that you are entitled to elect your leader and your labor

collective council so as to ensure that what you get is not just a basic wage. So as to ensure that you are guaranteed conditions in which you can work very well indeed. The difference lies not in words but in the very mechanism of creating your income. What is guaranteed is normal working conditions rather than a wage.

But we are not used to this! Let's be frank and admit that this frightens and irritates us.... But whom does it frighten and irritate most? The good worker or the loafer? Take a closer look: Who are you, where do you stand....

The social surgery which is being carried out by restructuring consists primarily in the fact that it returns those who were afflicted with social passiveness to normal productive labor remunerated according to the actual end results of their labor. And this requires courage. That very human courage which many of us have either lost or never acquired.

True, restructuring is not inoffensive. For some it is even dangerous because it threatens to deprive them of undeserved benefits and privileges. This is why they do not lack resolve to oppose it covertly or even overtly. This was the case in Chardzhou, where the overt enemies of restructuring killed a principled party worker, the indomitable Khalima.... Does this not mean that we, the advocates of both the philosophical and the political concepts of restructuring, have left the enemies of restructuring too much opportunity for resistance? Especially as regards relations in the legal sphere. Let us be frank: We cannot fail to be alarmed by the kind of "timidity" shown by law enforcement organs in the face of unorthodox situations. We cannot fail to be concerned about the level of competence of workers in this sphere....

Today as never before everyone needs to define the measure of his ideological strength. Time demands that we rid ourselves of the illusion that revolutionary decrees and resolutions written on paper will automatically have the desired effect. No! This has never been the case, nor will it ever be. The heap of human problems, mundane, economic, and social problems, can only be resolved by man himself. Time also demands great sincerity from us since without it glasnost merely becomes a plaything in the hands of demagogues. And it also demands courage.

There have never been letters like those which have been arriving at the PRAVDA office since the 19th all-union party conference. The party conference has set free social creativeness: The mass readership is expressing its opinion more critically, openly, and ruthlessly than ever before. Readers frequently adopt a hard-line, categorical stance, but invariably they defend their personal viewpoint with utmost sincerity! Their personal viewpoint! And that speaks for the process of moral renewal better than any words. However, it would be extremely dangerous to ignore the aforementioned nostalgia for the disappearing bureaucratic "romantic view" of universal leveling and the way of thinking which regards independence as utterly useless.

Social Security Paperwork Streamlined

PM2709083188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Sep 88 First Edition p 1

[Feature under the general rubric "PRAVDA Spoke Out. What Has Been Done?": "'Certificate,' 7 August"]

[Text] The above-named article and another one ("Provide a Certificate Here Too" in the issue for 25 August 1988) discussed bureaucratic distortions connected with the drawing up of frequently absurd certificates which are devoid of practical meaning, exhaust millions of people, and have an adverse effect on the moral climate in the country.

Report from the USSR Council of Ministers:

"To the USSR Ministry of Health (Comrade Chazov), the USSR Ministry of Trade (Comrade Terekh), the USSR State Committee for Public Education (Comrade Yagodin), and the RSFSR Ministry of Social Security (Comrade Kaznacheyev).

"Please examine accordingly the questions raised in the articles 'Certificate' and 'Provide a Certificate Here Too,' published in the newspaper PRAVDA, and report on the measures taken to revise obsolete instructions, circulars, and regulations which hamper the organization of services for the population to modern standards.

"N. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers."

Report from the RSFSR Ministry of Social Security:

"We consider the article 'Certificate' topical and timely. In this connection a decision has now been adopted to rescind more than 200 orders and letters of instruction—which will improve the organization of services and do away with the unnecessary and frequently quite unjustified demands made on citizens in the exercise of their right to social services. Proposals have been drawn up to revise the main regulatory documents with a view to simplifying them as far as possible. Without waiting for changes to a number of documents and taking account of the topicality of the question, the ministry has considered it possible at this stage to resolve the question of extending the term for which disability is laid down with regard to internationalist servicemen.

"To improve pension services for the population, the rule about pensioners' regularly renewing their application for their pension to be transferred to a savings bank

has been rescinded. It is now sufficient to apply once, and subsequent payments through a savings bank will be made until the pensioner himself renounces this method of payment.

"The procedure for paying pensions to families on account of the loss of the breadwinner for children who have reached the age of 16 has been simplified—these families have been spared the bother of providing certificates relating to the children's studies.

"A draft of a new form of pension certificate, which, in our opinion, should be the only document throughout the USSR's territory enabling a pensioner to use without hindrance the benefits and rights granted him, has been drawn up and sent to the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems.

"V. Kaznacheyev, RSFSR minister of social security."

Glasnost implies specificity. It was precisely this that made us ask V. Kaznacheyev a question which, to judge from the letters sent in response to "Certificate," worries hundreds of our readers:

[PRAVDA] By how much is the term for "recertifying" disabled servicemen who have been in Afghanistan being extended? Who is preventing the adopted decision from being extended to regions outside the RSFSR?

[Kaznacheyev] I will amplify: We have not yet been supported everywhere. Some of our proposals are still with the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems. And this is precisely why the ministry collegium had to display certain courage in independently extending the term to 5 years. So far this has been legitimated only by an internal ministry letter signed by the minister, which, consequently, has only the force and authority of the minister's signature.

[PRAVDA] But is that not sufficient for this to be a strict rule for the Russian subdivisions of the Ministry of Social Security?

[Kaznacheyev] Undoubtedly. What is more, with this letter we have obliged local leaders to create all the conditions for "Afghan" invalids to be embraced by a full-fledged rehabilitation system—both moral and physical rehabilitation—without which they cannot return to normal life. We have also decided that an "Afghan" invalid studying in a particular educational institution should, before the end of his studies, be attached to the group of invalids to which he was "allocated" right at the beginning.

[PRAVDA] So this is not yet being extended to other regions....

[Kaznacheyev] Alas, my signature is null and void there. But still, I believe, we must not make an "Afghan" invalid go to the commission every 12 months. They have had too hard a time, and too much must be done for their full-fledged rehabilitation cycle.

Suit Claiming Slander Against Stalin Rejected

PM2709080188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 6

[Pavel Gutiontov article: "Action No 17 in Defense of Comrade Stalin Dismissed by the Rayon Court"]

[Text] The action was filed by Ivan Timofeyevich Shekhovtsov, former prosecutor's office official now retired on pension and resident of Kharkov. He took writer Ales Adamovich to court, accusing him of insulting I.V. Stalin's and his, I.T. Shekhovtsov's, honor and dignity. That was the 17th action filed by Shekhovtsov against a wide range of press organs and their writers. The previous 16 were not referred for trial since they exclusively concerned only Stalin (someone who, in Shekhovtsov's words, "cannot personally explain and justify himself"), but the former prosecutor perceived elements of personal insult in Adamovich's article published by SOVETSKAYA KULTURA on 19 May this year.

The point is that the writer cited his letter to Vasil Bykov, whom Shekhovtsov had taken to task for an article in IZVESTIYA which, in his opinion, contained insulting attacks against the Leader [Stalin], advising him to immediately send to IZVESTIYA a letter saying that he had "revised his positions."

Bykov failed to revise his positions, but the letter was read by Adamovich, who, without actually naming the writer, deemed it permissible to quote the following lines from it:

"A stalwart jurist from Stalin's time writes: 'You say: "Vavilov was tortured...." But the point is that, under the law, the use of torture and other illegal methods can be considered grounds for quashing a sentence only if the persons who used these methods have themselves been sentenced. So, was investigator Khvat, who is alleged to have tortured Vavilov, investigated?..'

"Do you hear," Adamovich commented, "the triumphant defender of butchers, gloating over what is, frankly, our liberalism? Aha, in the sixties they let the butchers evade the courts and hide behind the statute of limitations.... Well, tough! It is not your verdicts, but ours that remain in force!.. When you read things like that, you groan as if you had toothache, but what then, how can you reply if it is not a person facing you, but a brick wall...."

Shekhovtsov had no objections to his own letter being quoted. But he complained about the term "triumphant defender of butchers" and demanded proof that those

whose defense he has undertaken were indeed butchers. And, as you can easily understand, Lieutenant Khvat was no more than an excuse for a conversation on a much broader topic.

In essence, it concerned the judicial acquittal of Stalinism.

I was invited to attend the trial by Daniil Granin, who had come to Moscow on business of his own and had put some of it off so as to be able to attend this trial. The hall was chockablock, there were no empty seats, and some people were even standing. Television and movie cameras were shooting away, and Doctors of Sciences V. Polikarpov, A. Mishin, and S. Sheboldayev and current affairs writer Yu. Karyakin were among the witnesses summoned....

What positions were taken by the sides in this trial?

Shekhovtsov demanded an end to the press censuring of the "period in our history when the party and state were headed by Comrade I.V. Stalin." Also that material on topics concerning rehabilitation be written only by "persons vested with the necessary powers."

Adamovich declared that "we will not wait for jurists from the Stalin school to give us permission to examine these things in the way our moral sense dictates."

By way of evidence, Shekhovtsov cited newspapers "from the period 1935-1948." The respondents (the SOVETSKAYA KULTURA editorial board in addition to Adamovich) cited the assessments made in the report to the festive session devoted to the 70th anniversary of Soviet power and a recent interview given to PRAVDA by M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

Shekhovtsov claimed that since there had been no trial of those who inspired the terror, it is illegal to call them butchers and even to accuse them of crimes. The respondents counterclaimed: Surely we are entitled to describe Malyuta Skuratov [chief of secret police under Ivan the Terrible] as a butcher and Tamerlane as a bloody tyrant. Yet no court passed a verdict on either of them, and now it is hardly feasible to give each one of them the floor to justify themselves....

All this could easily be laughed off: "Come on, you guys, we're getting ready to celebrate our millennium!" But behind this action stands a terrible phenomenon which is by no means buried in the past. Stalinism is still alive, and sweeping it out of our present means more than just taking the generalissimo's photograph off a bus windshield. Stalinism is a way of thinking which spares no thought for man....

But why "rake up the past"? Why not forget it like a bad nightmare? Why reopen old wounds?

In order to prevent these wounds going septic. In order to really consign the past to **the past.** In order to restore the sole proper meaning of the terms "good" and "evil"—because, incidentally, the distortion of their actual meaning under Stalin played by no means the least role in the sprouting of duplicity in Brezhnev's era.

The tragedy of Stalinshchina concerns more than the purposeful destruction of the pick and pride of the country; it mercilessly perverted the minds of the survivors. During a break between court sessions, someone asked Shekhovtsov: "Tell us then, did Stalin do anything good for you personally?" Ivan Timofeyevich replied: "He did!" And he narrated the following story verbatim.

Back in 1929, his family was dekulakized by virtue of a rural soviet decision. At 3 years of age, he was the oldest of three children. While on board the special train, his mother used to wrap the wet diapers around her own body to dry them.... The youngest died.... But right after Stalin's article "Giddy With Success" his family was brought back....

Precisely so: The rural soviet sent them to exile, Stalin brought them back....

Ivan Timofeyevich should be pitied. But he personally has no pity for anyone. Following the article about Raskolnikov published by OGONEK last year, Shekhovtsov asked the Moscow prosecutor to institute criminal proceedings against its author, V. Polikarpov, "for disseminating in print deliberately false fabrications defaming the Soviet state and social system...." The justification of his request took six written pages. As in the good old days....

Now he demands incontrovertible proof that repressions actually took place and that Stalin was actually guilty of them. Fine, facts were also cited at the trial.

There was mention of a recent article in IZVESTIYA about the tragedy of Kuropaty, an obscure and tiny place near Minsk where repressed people were shot en masse in the late thirties. The Belorussian Prosecutor's Office has launched an investigation of this case, and the newspaper cited excerpts from eyewitness testimonies by local residents....

"Have you read about Kuropaty?", Shekhovtsov was asked in court.

"And did you know that this IZVESTIYA article was immediately reported by Voice of America?", Shekhovtsov answered the question by another question....

Originals of the so-called "show trials" have been preserved, with every page listing biographical details of the exposed "enemy of the people" followed by a "summary of the case" outlined in a few lines. There are three signatures underneath: Vyshinskiy, Ulrikh, and Yezhov. All that was left for Stalin to do was to put a figure in the

corner of the page—"1" (execution by firing squad) or "2" (10 years in camp). The destiny of those left untouched by Stalin's pencil was indeed decided without his knowledge, but along very similar lines....

Doctor of Historical Sciences V. Polikarpov, testifying as witness before the court, cited a figure: In 1937-1938 alone Stalin signed 393 lists containing the names of hundreds upon hundreds of innocent people. And then he said, turning to Shekhovtsov: "If you really were a historian, as you claim, you must know that the expert study which you as a jurist demand be conducted was conducted even before the 20th congress, and its deductions and conclusions—based on a most thorough study of documents—are known all over the world...."

"Are you now in a position to show me the originals of these documents?", Shekhovtsov asked....

Of course, Ivan Timofeyevich Shekhovtsov, a jurist and upholder of the law, knows and insists that no citizen can be called a criminal unless he has been tried. But he nonetheless demands:

"Let them name a specific Ivanov, Petrov, or Sidorov who was personally exterminated by Stalin!"

Indeed, he is right here. Let us name (and we not only can but must do this!) individually all the victims of the terror and the organizers of the terror—those who prepared and those who signed the "extermination lists," and those who carried out the unlawful "sentences." We must do this now, even though it might be late. And it is more than just a matter of restoring simple historical justice, even though this is, of course, highly significant.

I would like to cite—mainly verbatim—part of the court speech by writer Ales Adamovich, respondent in the action about insulting the honor and dignity of Stalin and a Stalinist:

"Neither I nor my family (mother, father, and brother) suffered directly in Stalin's repressions, there is no personal injury involved. Nonetheless, I consider myself one of the victims and am prepared to file my own 'action' against Stalin and his defenders.

"It was he, Stalin, who ruined my country's agriculture by 'depeasantizing' it and I, inhabitant of an area accounting for one-sixth of the planet, am incapable of feeding myself. Not only did he 'depeasantize' the country, he also deprived it of food scientists like Nikolay Vavilov, killing them through the agency of butcher-investigators and butcher-prosecutors like Khvat and Vyshinskiy.

"It was he, Stalin, who killed off a sizable proportion of my people.

"It was he who made people look suspiciously at their fellow citizens for decades on end: Could he be an informer?.. He thus fragmented us, deprived us of the sense of respect for one another, and thus of our own self-respect.

"It was Stalin who, through his policy of repressions, almost left me to the mercy of fascism (and in fact did leave 80 million) and afterward treated us (including partisans and underground fighters) as traitors: They lived in occupied territory!

"And finally it was he, Stalin, who discredited socialism....

"There it is, my far from complete case against Stalin, and therefore against his defenders...."

...Moscow's Sverdlovskiy Rayon People's Court decided to dismiss I.T. Shekhovtsov's action. This is an important and principled decision, though the former deputy prosecutor is, of course, entitled to appeal against it. But no matter what he and his associates might do, Stalin and Stalinism have already been sentenced by a **supreme** court whose sentence is final and not subject to appeal. This is the sentence by History, and this sentence is already legally in force.

Churbanov Testifies Before Supreme Court

LD2609144088 Moscow TASS in English 1427 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS– By TASS correspondent Nikita Demidov:

Churbanov has become the seventh defendant to testify at the USSR Supreme Court, where the trial continues of Yuri Churbanov, former first deputy minister of internal affairs and a number of senior militia officials from Uzbekistan. As was already reported, he pleaded guilty only to abuse of power and denied charges of bribe-taking.

Early on, the audience was at times left puzzled as Churbanov made every effort to present himself as a man who did not know that the bundles, packages and even a briefcase handed over to him at different times by senior officials of various ranks contained money. For example, Churbanov explained the fact of transfer of money by Umarov, a former senior executive official of the Central Committee of Uzbekistan's Communist Party, saying that "Umarov strolled into my hotel room holding a briefcase and said 'this is a gift from Rashidov' (the former first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan), put the briefcase at the bedside and left. When I opened it, I found 100,000 or 130,000 rubles. I wanted to return money, but to whom? Umarov left and I felt awkward to approach Rashidov." He kept the money because of the

'objective' reasons. "I was told that that was a gift and looked on it as a gift," Churbanov explained. And so on and so forth. It should be noted that none of the 'gifts' had been returned.

As for the abuse of office, for example, the building of a cellar at the country house, it turns out that he was "decieved by workers of the administation department of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs who said that such construction was allowed." Naturally, when such explanations came from the former first deputy minister of internal affairs whose job it was to know law, the audience could not help smiling. But the degree of the guilt of each of the nine defendants, including Churbanov, will be determined only by the court.

Interrogation was completed today of former heads of five regional militia departments in Uzbekistan: Muin Norov, Dzhamal Dzhamalov, Khushvan Norbutayev, Yakub Makhamadhanov, Salim Sabirov. They pleaded guilty only to part of the bribe-taking charges. Only former Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Uzbekistan Pyotr Begelman pleaded guilty to all charges. Incidentally, Churbanov described many testimonies given in the trial as "false and designed to slander him." The court will also determine this.

Officials Attend Construction Complex Meeting

LD2509104388 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1230 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] The grounds of the Rzhez crane building plant, Kalinin Oblast, was today the site for an emergency all-union meeting of journalists, devoted to the problems of the accelerated development of the machine-building and construction complexes. Taking part in the meeting were Comrades Batalin and Silayev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Melnikov, head of the Construction Department of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Tatarchuk, first secretary of the Kalinin Oblast CPSU Committee; and the leaders of ministries and departments.

Further on Plant Meeting

LD2509204088 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Sep 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Summary] The Rzhev crane-building plant has been producing tower cranes in a 10-month-old building of 65,000 square meters. The Rzhev experiment has cancelled old methods of reconstructing machine-building enterprises. Building, assembly, and adjustment of equipment were done simultaneously, thereby saving time and money. The USSR Construction Bank allocated R45 million to the plant on the condition that it receive some of its profits in return. A profit is already being made. All the stages of construction continue simultaneously. Houses for the plant's workers were built at the same time as the plant rather than afterwards, as is the norm, and 500 families already have homes. There is a kindergarten. Other amenities will follow. "The experience amassed thanks to the Rzhev experiment was discussed at the all-union emergency meeting of journalists, in which Comrades Batalin and Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the leaders of the ministries and departments were taking part."

Meeting Commemorates Machine Builders' Day

PM2709091188 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Ceremonial Meeting"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting devoted to the professional holiday of Machine Builders' Day was held in Moscow 23 September.

The Presidium was made of N.N. Slyunkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; O.S. Belyakov, chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; leaders of ministries and departments; scientists; production frontrankers; and representatives of the public.

A report was delivered by I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Machine Building Bureau.

He stressed that the main resources and funds of the machine building complex are channeled into meeting the needs of the most important national economic complexes. Together with customers, 44 priority areas have been defined in the creation of new-generation equipment. Thus, a system of highly productive equipment for intensive technologies is being developed for the agro-industrial complex, as is a complex of machines to mechanize the work carried out by family and contract collectives. The program for a social development complex [programma dlya kompleksa sotsialnogo razvitiya] is aimed at ensuring production of improved-quality consumer goods, modern medical equipment, and progressive printing equipment.

Next year it is planned to create more than 4,000 types of new equipment in priority areas.

'Memorial' Public Council Discusses Competition

PM2609140188 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Sep 88 p2

[Unattributed report: "'Memorial'—Public Council Begins Work"]

[Text] In LITERATURNAYA GAZETA No 35 we reported the formation of the "Memorial" public council. The first session of the public council elected Academician A. Sakharov as its honorary chairman. A. Adamovich, Yevg. Yevtushenko, and Yu. Karyakin were elected cochairmen.

The public council, which is intended to direct the formation and work of a memorial complex, was established as a result of a public opinion poll conducted by an initiative group, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, and OGONEK, which are among the founders of the new all-union "Memorial" society.

The session discussed a series of organizational issues, including the procedure for holding a competition for the best project for a memorial complex in Moscow dedicated to the memory of the victims of the repressions in the decades from the twenties through the fifties. The commission responsible for the competition has been instructed to study the possibility of holding the competition in two rounds so that the first round can be considered as a competition for the concept of a memorial complex to be built using public money (to be paid into Account No 700454).

It has been decided to hold the founding conference of the "Memorial" all-union historical education society before the end of this year.

Republication of Prominent Authors Planned
LD2509130788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] A long-term plan for the publication of works on the history of the fatherland and the writings of prominent Russian and Soviet philosophers, economists, and legal experts, which have not been published in our country for a long time, has been worked out.

Interest in these works has grown particularly recently, but many of the writings that were once considered to be classics of research are now hardly accessible, even to specialists. This was one of the resons for the stagnation in social studies, and it has distorted the conception of the present generations about the most important historical events. Now the situation will be corrected.

In fact, the long-term plan is already being fulfilled. Selected works by Bukharin have come out. Historical works by Karamzin, Sergey Solovyev, and Klyuchevskiy are appearing again. The plan includes selected historical works by Zabelin, Pokrovskiy's "Russian History in its Briefest [samiy kratkiy] Outline" and the works of Kostomarov. Memoirs are to be republished, in particular from the revolution and the Civil War, not only those of revolutionaries, but also of people in the White Guard camp. There is an extensive plan for publishing the works of philosophers. We shall see here the names of Vladimir Solovyev, Kropotkin, Florenskiy, Berdyayev, Leontyev, Merezhkovskiy, and Tereyevskiy. There will be a series on the literary inheritance of Russian thinkers, the economic inheritance. The program can be seen in the 38th edition of KNIZHNOYE OBOZRENIYE. But we will add that the USSR State Committee for Publishing has allowed publishing houses to make more precise specifications and additions to the plan as new books deserving of republication come to light.

New Magazine Looking for Contributors
PM2609155988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 88 Second Edition p 1

[Article by PRAVDA Editorial Collegium under the rubric "A Word to Our Readers": "A Magazine Called RODINA"]

[Text] In January 1989 the PRAVDA editorial board will begin publishing a new all-union magazine, RODINA, the most sacred and dearest name for each of the representatives of our country's more than 100 nations and ethnic groups. An illustrated sociopolitical and popular science magazine—such are its credentials.

The magazine will describe our motherland's history, its present day, and the traditions and beauty of our land.

On the subject of history, the magazine will write about it as it was—with its dialectical contradictions, its heroism, its everyday aspect, and its tragedy. We shall try to work with documents, real facts and events, eye witnesses' reminiscences, and other testimony.

In writing the "history of the present day" (in Lenin fashion) our main task will be to seek out, support, and disseminate the positive experience of restructuring. Here, too, we appeal to readers for their help and support—the magazine simply cannot operate without your involvement in this extremely necessary work.

The magazine offers the utmost freedom in the choice of themes and forms. It very much needs talented current affairs writing, the kind of writing which is bold in the party manner and responsive to the most urgent problems. We expect such work from writers, journalists, and cultural figures. We expect it from machine operators, from those who work in the field, and from people who are committed and concerned.

With your help we expect the magazine to offer vivid current affairs writing dedicated to scientific themes. After all, scientific and technical progress and the use of its latest achievements in production and in other spheres of social life are the most important factor in restructuring and the acceleration and intensification of the country's socioeconomic development. Tell us about the achievements of Soviet science and technology and about the things that are hindering their progress.

Many of the magazine's articles and features will be aimed at young people. The RODINA editorial office has set up a young people's problems department which has already announced a number of interesting items for the first issue.

International problems will occupy a large part of the magazine. Here, as in all the other sections of the magazine, we want the utmost honesty. Without

renouncing the party approach to the events of international life, we intend to express the new thinking, whose essence is that nuclear war must be averted and mankind's survival ensured.

In its travel notes, features, and interviews the magazine will talk about the history, culture, and present day problems of countries and peoples.

We shall also use photographs to try to portray all that we have planned. We want photographs—the most varied and, most importantly, interesting ones—about life in our country and abroad.

In publishing this appeal we are counting on your advice or suggestions on how you would like this new magazine to be.

The magazine will appear once a month. It will cost 70 kopeks per issue.

More Earth Tremors Reported in Tajikistan

LD2609145688 Moscow TASS in English 1437 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] Dushanbe September 26 TASS—Earth motions keep rumbling through the Pamir Mountains. Following the series of underground tremors felt by residents of several cities and villages of Tajikistan in the early hours of September 26, a stong underground echo sounded once more. The seismic station Dushanbe recorded the eipicenter of an earthquake measuring 6 on the Richter scale 310 kilometers south-east of the capital of Tajikistan at 10:17 [0717 GMT] Moscow time today.

According to tentative information, the earthquake that struck at night damaged Khorog, the administrative center of Gorno-Badakhshan and the nearby village of Rosht-Kala. Serious damage was caused to six general education schools and the building of the regional state theater of musical comedy located in their territory. Many dwellings were destroyed. The extent of damage is specified by specialists.

Economic

Petroleum Refining Minister on Reforms

PM2309090888 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Sep 88 Second Edition p 2

[Article by N. Lemayev, USSR minister of petroleum refining and petrochemical industry, under the rubric "The Lessons of Radical Reform": "Net Output Encourages Lower Material Expenditure and Enhanced Labor Returns"]

[Text] Many delegates to the 19th all-union party conference liked the words of V. Yarin, operator at a Urals plant. All of us without exception, he said, have come to restructuring from the past, with its bad points and its habits, with its indifference and its freeloading attitudes. These have to be overcome. The main essence of restructuring lies not only in the slogan "more socialism," but also in the knowledge that we cannot continue working as we have in the past.

Petroleum refining and petrochemical industry workers reached the same conclusion—namely that it is no longer possible to work in the old way—more than 2 years ago and decided, back at the time of the preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress, to implement a radical economic reform in the sector.

The situation in our sector at that time was not rosy. The plan hinged on the number of tonnes. The more petroleum passed through primary processing installations, the higher were the wages and bonuses. But when it came to multiple processing of one and the same tonne of raw material in order to extract from it as many of its valuable components as possible, the evaluation indicators fell immediately and the collective ran aground.

Such a wasteful division of petroleum, basically into gasoline and fuel oil, was intolerable. Our economists, thinking about introducing economic accountability, persistently sought new economic indicators that would enhance the sector labor collectives' interest in processing every tonne of raw material as comprehensively as possible. What was to be used as the main evaluation indicator during the switch to economic accountability? Obviously, an indicator that would make it possible to link higher labor productivity to wage rises more accurately than others, while at the same time ensuring a thrifty consumption of raw and other materials, which account for the bulk of expenditure growth.

I would like to recall that wat that time the Law on the State Enterprise which, as we know, recommends two models of economic accountability, model No 1 and model No 2, was not yet in force. We decided that we would assess enterprises' performance on the basis of growth in **net output** (wages plus profit). Let me remind noneconomists of the nature of this criterion. It is arrived at by deducting the cost of material expenditure and depreciation allowances from commodity output. The less raw material you use to produce the finished product and the more carefully you utilize your fixed capital, the bigger your profit and consequently also your net output. Wages are calculated on the basis of net output in accordance with a set normative, and incentive funds also depend on it.

I think it would be quite useful to define which model of economic accountability our model resembles more—No 1 or No 2. We believe that our model is not subject to the shortcomings of model No 1 since raw and other material expenditure is deducted when working out net output. At the same time, through combining the normative distribution of profit and the formation of the wage fund on the basis of net output growth, our model is, in terms of its economic nature, analogous to economic accountability model No 2, the only difference

being that the "balance" of paid and received fines does not affect the size of the main part of the labor remuneration fund under our system.

But maybe it should? Our economists do not think so, because the balance of fines—essentially a nonproduction activity of the collective—should not affect the level of the wage fund, not to mention the dynamic of labor productivity growth.

By way of confirmation, let me cite these figures. In the 1st half-year nearly half of our enterprises showed a positive balance in sanctions in the form of fines. They received R23.4 million more than they paid out themselves. Under the second model, this section of the income is used largely to increase labor remuneration. Under our conditions, that would mean that one-half of the sector's enterprises could increase average wages by approximately an additional 2 percent, but without creating any output or saving resources.

So each of the forms of economic accountability has its shortcomings and its advantages. And in order to further develop the radical reform, we must not fail to take this into account.

In the 18 months since we started working in the new way, in a number of indicators results of a kind that the sector had not formerly achieved have been obtained. Enterprises have saved nearly R600 million worth of materials and raw materials. Average annual savings were nearly three times the level of the 11th 5-Year Plan years. We have built a number of major capacities, but personnel numbers in the sector have fallen by 19,500.

In the period of working in the new conditions net output worth R337 million has been produced in addition to the plan calculations. Enterprises transferred R4.25 billion from profits into the budget and formed economic incentive funds totaling more than R5 billion. These resources ensure the sector's systematic development, including the growth of production potential and social building. Over the same period R2.5 billion was spent on labor remuneration, and consumer goods worth R4.8 billion were manufactured.

The sector's average figures are, as you can see, good. Two-thirds of enterprises are beyond reproach. The remainder can be divided into two groups: The first is steadily reducing the losses that occurred formerly and will certainly soon begin to work efficiently. The second group causes concern—it consists of those enterprises that are in deep trouble. They are basically bankrupt, and the sector is forced to "fatten them up" out of the centralized fund and reserves. They include the Volgograd Petroleum Refinery, the Voronezh Tire Plant, the Sumgait "Sintezkauchuk" Association, "Chimkentshina," the Novokuybyshevsk Petroleum Refinery, the "Groznefteorgsintez" Association, and also the Gorlovskiy Rubber Footwear Plant.

The Volgograd Petroleum Refinery reduced its volume of output and profit last year. Still worrying about tonnage, as in the old days, it produced fuel oil above plan, but the figure for comprehensive processing of petroleum was 25,000 tonnes less than the target, and the plant failed to produce a whole series of high quality petroleum products. In 18 months the two thermal cracking installations were idle for 240 and 396 days respectively, and the installation for the production of synthetic fatty acids for 96 days. Above-norm losses of petroleum exceeded 36,000 tonnes. What does this suggest? The enterprise's leaders are thinking in the old way, not working to improve the cadres' skills, and perpetrating blunders in technical and economic policy.

In the new conditions, poor work is reflected in wages. While the average wage in the sector is R239 a month, at the Volgograd refinery it is R186, and at the Groznenskiy association it is R188.

Is it possible, as before, to deduct a proportion of the earnings from working people at the leading plants and boost the laggards? Some leaders use lower wages as an explanation for their collectives' poor work. By saying this they are turning the matter upside down and deliberately confusing the effect with the cause.

The new economic mechanism will not tolerate leveling, and that is one of its main driving forces. Enterprises that formerly made losses put their work to rights and begin to make a profit. This has been achieved by the Ishimbay Petroleum Refinery, the Chaykovskiy Synthetic Rubber Plant, and the Dashava, Cheleken, and Nizhnekamsk industrial carbon plants. In the 1st half-year they became profitable, and obtained a total of R8.6 million in profit. In all, the number of loss-making enterprises has fallen from 17 to 9.

What is the fate of loss-making collectives? A number of small production units have been handed over to cooperatives. There are now 116 cooperative sections and production units in the sector, employing 1,039 people. The cooperative set up on the basis of the bicycle tires section at the Voronezh Tire Plant has made quite a good start. For many years that section was in deep trouble, but the cooperative has brought it up to the planned level for tire production and profit.

Every grain of experience is valuable. Last year the sector achieved a 1.1 percent fall in the materials-intensiveness of production, and in the first half of this year it fell by nearly 2 percent, resulting in savings of R269 million. Some 3.9 million tonnes more motor fuel and other petroleum products have been obtained this year than in the same period last year as a result of the more comprehensive processing of crude oil. The expenditure of rubber has fallen by 19,000 tonnes, and that of cord cloth

by 9 million square meters. These resources are sufficient to produce an additional 1 million tires. Nonetheless the shortage of many types of output has not yet been eliminated. This means that increasing their production is one of the main tasks.

Economic accountability has helped us to see that individual decisions by the ministry led to economic losses at the enterprises. I am talking about cases of the failure to commission capacities on a comprehensive basis. We are convinced that the economic mechanism itself also requires constant improvement.

Many shortcomings in the banking and credit system are worrying, for instance. Its reorganization only slowed down payments between enterprises by 7-10 days. Restrictions on the issuing of loans only increase overdue debts on payment.

We see a way out of this situation in the creation of a sector bank under the ministry. This would make it possible to handle payments for deliveries within the sector several times more rapidly, and to drastically reduce the quantity of "idle" rubles.

Another problem. Whereas the USSR Gosplan and Gossnab have such levers as the state order and quotas on resources, sector ministries have no rights enabling them to organize work on reciprocal deliveries of output within the sector. We believe that ministries should be given the right to set quotas for output for consumption within the sector, giving priority to the conclusion of contracts after execution of the state order.

A few words about wholesale trade. The USSR Gossnab would like largely to turn this into deliveries on the basis of direct economic ties without quotas. But that does not guarantee the satisfaction of orders or a choice for clients, that is to say, it deprives wholesale trade of its most important attribute—efficiency.

You cannot perfect the economic mechanism by means of trial and error. The road ahead must be illuminated by scientific thought. But today there are far more critical scientists than creative scientists. To benefit the cause, it is necessary, in our view, to bring together all the brilliant heads into a single ad hoc group and set them a task—to draw up practical recommendations for increasing the effectiveness of the reform.

In my view it is time to really eliminate the acute disproportion in the development of sectors, and first and foremost to accelerate the development of machine building. We have an acute shortage of modern equipment furnished with electronics. So what should we do, rely on imports again? That would not be the thrifty thing to do.

Under the conditions of the radical reform and the operation of the Law on the State Enterprise, it is necessary as quickly as possible to define the status and position of sector ministries. Demands on them are growing, but their rights are restricted. I consider it absolutely wrong for certain mass media to groundlessly number all ministry workers among the bureaucrats and idlers. Radical reform requires links between many questions of technical progress and production and social development specifically at sector level. Naturally, the ministries' functions and structure should be changed in light of their orientation toward strategic tasks.

The economic reform is gathering speed, stagnation is being overcome more and more markedly, and people's activeness and enterprise are growing. These processes will go more quickly if we carefully analyze the course of the reform, uncover shortcomings, and make fuller use of the best experience.

Agricultural

Ukraine Oblasts Fulfill Grain Delivery Plan

Zhitomir Oblast

AU2609155788 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 20 Sep 88 p 1

[RATAU report: "Grain From the Forest Zone"]

[Text] This year, which has been not quite favorable, the per-hectare grain yields at the "Progress" Sovkhoz in Zhitomir Oblast averaged 42 quintals. Intensively cultivated wheat yielded 54 quintals. The Postyshev Kolkhoz in Berdichevskiy Rayon, the Karl Marx Kolkhoz in Novograd-Volynskiy Rayon, the Kirov Kolkhoz in Chudnovskiy Rayon, and many others gathered 32-36 quintals of grain per hectare and prefulfilled the 5-year plan for the sale of grain to the state.

Zhitomir Oblast as a whole fulfilled the plan for grain sale, having delivered 240,000 tonnes of grain to procurement centers. A significant contribution to the common store has been made by the best kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Lyubarskiy, Andrushevskiy, Berdichevskiy, Novograd-Volynskiy, Korostyshevskiy, and Ovruchskiy Rayons. Having provided themselves with seeds, the farms are now harvesting corn for grain and replenishing the feed stocks. Fall sowing is in progress.

Volyn Oblast

AU2609160988 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 21 Sep 88 p 1

[RATAU report: "Volyn Grain"]

[Text] Volyn Oblast agricultural laborers filled the state order for grain, having delivered 140,000 tonnes of grain to state granaries.

The forest zone crop has been obtained under difficult weather conditions following the conscientious efforts of hundreds of thousands of farmers, primarily those who produced the highest yields, including the laborers of

"Leninskiy Put" Kolkhoz in Ivanichevskiy Rayon, and a number of farms in Kivertsovskiy, Lokachinskiy, Lyubomlskiy, Vladimir-Volynskiy, and other rayons. The targets have been exceeded in the Gorokhovskiy and Lutskiy Rayons. The oblast as a whole has sold thousands of tonnes of valuable grain varieties.

The success was also facilitated by progressive methods of labor organization and farmers' wisdom: scythes were applied frequently, and crops from many areas were threshed twice. The yields significantly increased due to the application of advanced technologies on an area of 120,000 hectares and the use of the new "Polesskaya-87" and "Mironovskaya-61" wheat varieties. The collectives of urban enterprises actively assisted the farmers.

Farms are now laying the foundations for the next crop. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes are about to complete fall sowing and seed storing, and are preparing the soil for the spring crop.

Kiev Oblast

AU2609155988 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 22 Sep 88 p 1

[RATAU report: "Kiev Oblast Grain"]

[Text] Kiev Oblast farmers have fulfilled the plan for the sale of grain to the state. They have delivered 500,000 tonnes of grain to elevators and grain reception centers. An appreciable contribution to this achievement was made by the farms of Mironovskiy, Obukhovskiy, and Tarashchanskiy Rayons. The oblast's per-hectare grain yields averaged 31 quintals.

What considerably helped obtain such yields were economic management methods. Contract collectives made efficient and skillful use of equipment and applied advanced work methods. The advantages of intensive technologies, applied on 330,000 hectares, or more than a half of the total area under grain crops, also played an an important role. For example, the"Leninskyy Shlyakh" Kolkhoz in Obukhovskiy Rayon, the Lenin and the "Zhovten" Kolkhozes in Tarashchanskiy Rayon, and the "Pershe Travnya" Kolkhoz in Mironovskiy Rayon obtained from such fields 50-60 quintals of wheat per hectare.

The oblast's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have provided themselves with seeds and are replenishing feed stocks. The sales of grain to the state are continuing.

Scientific

Paper Views Re-Entry of 'Cosmos-1900'

PM2609154188 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 27 Sep 88 p 3

["TASS Announcement: About the Cosmos-1900 Satellite"]

[Text] It has already been reported that radio contact with the Cosmos-1900 satellite, launched into orbit from the Soviet Union on 12 December 1987 and designed for ocean surface observations, has been lost. The satellite carries a nuclear power device on board.

At present the satellite remains in an attitude-maintained flight, and its main systems, including the energy supply system, are functioning normally. On 22 September 1988 the parameters of the Cosmos-1900's orbit showed an apogee of 214 km and a perigee of 193 km.

The Cosmos-1900 satellite is equipped with main and back-up radiation safety systems, in conformity with recommendations by the UN Committee on the Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes. The main system is based on removal of the nuclear power device in high-altitude orbit, with the time spent in that orbit ensuring a decline of radioactivity to safe levels. The satellite's design includes automatic engagement of the removal system in the event of disruption of the satellite's altitude, depressurization of the instrument module, or the development of deviations in the energy supply system on board. In the absence of radio contact with the satellite, such engagement could occur at any moment until the time the back-up safety system is engaged. The back-up system, which is engaged in the event of main system failure, ensures separation of the reactor's active zone from the reactor body on entry into the atmosphere when overheating occurs (at an altitude of about 100 km). This separation of the active zone and its independent entry into the atmosphere guarantee its complete combustion in the denser layers of the atmosphere and the dispersion (disintegration into minute particles) of the fuel in such a way as to have the slightest possible effect on background radiation in the drop-out area.

According to estimates, under conditions of a stabilized flight, provided that removal of the nuclear power device does not occur beforehand, the satellite is expected to enter the dense layers of the atmosphere 4-8 October 1988.

At present, under conditions of continuing attitude-maintained flight by the Cosmos-1900 satellite, it is not possible to accurately forecast the time and place of its entry into the dense layers of the atmosphere. The appropriate services in the Soviet Union continue their painstaking observation of the satellite. Official notifications of the Cosmos-1900 satellite flight have been sent to the United Nations and the IAEA. Additional information on the satellite's flight will be released.

Chernobyl '30-Km Zone' Decontaminated

LD2409222188 Moscow TASS in English 2057 GMT 24 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—Sectors which were previously contaminated most heavily following the 1986 breakdown of the Chernobyl nuclear power station (NPS) have been finally decontaminated within the 30-kilometre zone around the NPS, ARGUMENTY I FAKTY newspaper reported on Saturday.

Only a sector with a radius of 5-10 km around the nuclear power station itself will be closed for long. It is planned to set up a proving ground and laboratory there to study various radiobiological and physical problems.

As far as the rest of the territory is concerned, medical specialists are of the opinion that it is not worth for people to return to the areas for another two-three years. This period will be needed to recheck the obtained data and to continue observations of flora and fauna. But already from this year onwards, the territory begins gradually to be brought back into economic uses.

When designing the "sarcophagus" over the broken down power unit, the designers proceeded from the assumption that a period of the operation of nuclear reactor, i.e., 30-40 years, is the criterion of the service life of any facility of the nuclear-power industry, the newpaper writes. This is why the elimination of the "sarcophagus" is the task of the present generation. At present scientists work on a solution to the problem.

'Mir' Cosmonauts Continue Research Projects

LD2709003988 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2230 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] In cosmic orbits: The crew of the Soviet "Mir" complex has conducted an experiment in examining natural resources of the USSR and other socialist countries participating in the Intercosmos program. Vladimir Titov and Musa Munarev are now in their 10th month in space, and their colleague Valeriy Polyakov has been up since the end of August. They photographed the forest and steppeland zones in the south of the Soviet Union and European CEMA countries. The experts can evaluate the state of the soil and plant cover over large areas.

Conduct Medical Experiment

LD2709085388 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 27 Sep 88

[Text] The crew of the manned "Mir" space complex is continuing to carry out research and the scheduled experiments. In order to determine the optimal physical routines for cosmonauts during lengthy flights, the medical experiment "Sport" is being conducted today. During the day the cosmonauts will also engage in routine maintenance of the equipment of the base module's temperature control system. Under the program to study extra-atmospheric astronomy, eight working sessions will be held. The telescopes of the Roentgen international observatory have been directed at a compact pulsar by the galaxy of the Great Magellanic Cloud.

Vladimir Titov, Musa Manarov, and Valeriy Polyakov feel fine. The work in space is proceeding according to the planned schedule.

Space Official Compares Soviet, U.S. Shuttles

LD2609145788 Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 26 Sep 88

[Text] The Soviet Union is about to test a space shuttle. Radio Moscow's science observer has details:

[Unidentified observer] The designers have, in a rather short time, resolved quite a few problems in research and engineering and refrained from borrowing any solutions. For instance, they built a unique wind tunnel imitating a space shuttle's flight at a speed 20 times that of sound. The space shuttle's equipment has been tested for heat resistance and durability in special chambers. The surface of the space shuttle is plated with a heat-resistant ceramic material. It's interesting that the material is rather soft, you can scratch it with a nail, but its heat resistance is amazing.

Computer-controlled landing is one of the most complicated problems still to be solved. Just imagine a space shuttle is gliding steeply and at a high speed towards a runway, what will happen in case of heavy fog or snowfall? A space shuttle, unlike conventional aircraft, cannot use an alternate landing site or make another approach. For that reason, the pilots must have reliable support from advanced technology capable of performing a safe landing even without any human involvement. So the Soviet space shuttle will be able to land in both man-controlled and automatic modes.

Today, the Soviet shuttle undergoes the last test. Future crews have been trained at a special flight simulator. What distinguishes the Soviet space shuttle? Radio Moscow's reporter has put this question to the chief of the Soviet space training center, Vladimir Shatalov:

[Begin Shatalov recording in Russian with superimposed English translation] The Soviet space shuttle differs from its American counterparts in several ways. We've been developing separately a booster rocket and a space shuttle. In the United States, space shuttles are an integral part of the system, rocket engines are part of the spacecraft, and they use fuel from a suspended fuel tank. The reason why we've been developing a booster rocket and a space shuttle separately is this: We want to have a multipurpose carrier rocket capable of launching not only space shuttles but also future research stations and space probes to study the Moon and Mars. The USSR now has such a rocket, it's called Energiya—Energy—and can put in space a payload of 100 tons. [end recording]

Do Soviet and American space shuttles have anything in common, Vladimir Shatalov?

[Begin Shatalov recording] We are faced with similar problems in space which pose certain requirements in terms of the shape, mass, and design of the spacecraft and their elements. The Soviet system will be in the same class with its American counterpart. They will look alike

as much as current aircraft or automobiles. The Soviet space suttle will carry the same payload as the American ones, of up to 29.5 tons, American shuttles carry crews of seven astronauts, the Soviet shuttle will carry as many, or more if need be. [end recording]

Military

Foreign Observers View Troop Exercises

LD2209100988 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 21 Sep 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast; report over video by correspondent A. Zhuk]

[Text] Troop exercises of the Belorussian Military District are being held in the territory of the Belorussian SSR for the purpose of improving the field training of troops.

[Zhuk] Soon there will be the sounds of battle here. The fortified positions of the Northerners will be attacked by the Southerners; these are the names of the opposing sides.

Observers from 26 states that participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe have come to the exercise area. They were invited in accordance with the documents of the Stockholm conference. Today they saw our servicemen at work.

After preparation fire, the Southeners took the offensive. The fighting comprises dynamics, assault, and attacks. All this is under conditions approximating those of combat as much as possible. The Northerners maintain their defense staunchly and stubbornly, but the onset of the attackers becomes more and more powerful. The tank troops, crews of combat helicopters, and motorized riflemen, skillfully maneuvering, inflict blow after blow.

The picture of the battle completely captured the attention of those observing the course of the fighting. [video shows group of observers watching the fighting; correspondent then interviews one of the observers, British Brigadier W. Bittles, identified by screen caption]

Yesterday there were complaints by some observers that they were not allowed to take photographs. Have you been permitted to take them today?

[Bittles] Yes, of course. Yesterday we were given the opportunity to take photographs; we have also been given this opportunity today and for the whole of the exercise.

[Zhuk] Things are taking place in a spirit of glasnost then?

[Bittles] Yes, in a spirit of glasnost. It is fine and we are very pleased.

[Zhuk] Subunits of ground forces and combat helicopters demonstrate their fine training. Then, by the strength of their firepower, the Southerners break through the enemy's defense and develop their offensive.

Yazov Addresses Military Personnel in Tashkent

PM2609180188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Sep 88 First Edition p 2

[Report by "our correspondent": "The Main Thing—Practical Deeds"]

[Text] Tashkent, 25 Sep—(By Telephone)—En route to India on an official visit, Army General D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of defense, made a stop here. He visited the Tashkent Higher Tank Command School named for Twice Hero of the Soviet Union, Marshal of Armored Troops P.S. Rybalko, and the Tashkent V.I. Lenin Higher Combined Arms Command School. The minister toured the instruction premises, students hostels, and museums, and also the canteens, the students tearooms, and other social facilities.

Army Gen D.T. Yazov chatted with the leadership and the professorial and teaching staff and with subunit commanders, students, soldiers from support subunits, and members of officers' and ensigns' families.

Accompanying the defense minister on his visit to the schools was Army General N.I. Popov, commander of the Turkestan Military District.

Army Gen D.T. Yazov addressed a meeting of leadership personnel of the troops of the Turkestan Military District. The meeting focused on questions of the restructuring of the work of commanders, political organs, staffs, and party organizations in line with the requirements of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference and the July (1988) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

The entire activity of military cadres was analyzed from the viewpoint of its conformity with the party conference instructions to ensure the priority of qualitative parameters in defense building.

It was emphasized that the success of restructuring is to a decisive extent being determined by the level of responsibility of commanders, political workers, and staff officers for the work entrusted to them.

The main thing today in any sector is: practical deeds and daily persistent, selfless work to implement everything projected. The results of the training year will be a concrete indicator of the cadres' party and service maturity. Everyone must receive an exacting assessment of his own labor.